



VOL. XIII. HANDBOOKS OF  
PRACTICAL GARDENING

THE BOOK OF  
THE  
WILD GARDEN

BY

S.W. FITZHERBERT.

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HANDBOOKS OF PRACTICAL GARDENING—XIII  
EDITED BY HARRY ROBERTS

THE BOOK OF THE WILD GARDEN









A CORNER OF THE LILY POND



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# THE BOOK OF THE WILD GARDEN

BY

S. W. FITZHERBERT



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*(These illustrations are reproducea from photographs by S. W. Fitzherbert.)*



## INTRODUCTION

THE meaning of the term "wild garden" has been wilfully misinterpreted for their own ends by the advocates of the artificial as opposed to the natural in garden design. They have taken the dictionary synonym of "disorderly"—the most misleading adjective that could be selected—as descriptive of the condition of the wild garden, whereas there is no sign of disorder in a thoughtfully planned and planted example, which has for its pattern Nature in her most attractive guise. In the flower-enamelled Alpine meadows there is no disorder, and in the forests of the tropics—though superabundant vigour is expressed in every growing thing—each giant liana and huge frond fills its appointed place in the picture without any suggestion of confusion. It is when Nature reasserts her sway in spots which man has ceased to cultivate that the tangle of brambles and nettles merits the term "disorder." In the wild garden, for which perhaps "untilled garden" would be a descriptive title less liable to misconstruction, Nature's scheme is not remodelled, but only supplemented by the addition of such absent native plants or hardy exotic subjects as may add attractiveness to the view.

Some have an idea that wild gardening commences and ends with the planting of daffodil bulbs in the grass, whereas this is merely one of the many possibilities that exist of beautifying the surroundings of the home by the informal grouping of hardy plants where natural condi-



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tions permit. Endless opportunities are offered in fields, woods, spinnies, glades between shrubberies and steep rocky slopes, that often form a more fitting home for Alpine and such-like plants than the most skilfully fashioned rock garden, ledges of chalk-cliff, breezy down-land, dells and gorges, lane-sides and hedge-banks and moist peaty spots. The list of plants suitable for naturalising in the wild garden is a lengthy one, for not only are the denizens of the temperate countries of the world available, but the mountain altitudes of the tropics afford many a treasure that proves unaffected by change of latitude. This wide field of selection is, however, not without its dangers for the amateur, since he may be tempted to indulge in so varied a collection that all likeness to Nature's handiwork is irretrievably lost—and above all things Nature must be his teacher. Bad as is the dotting system in the herbaceous border, in the wild garden it is infinitely worse. Far better too few genera, species and varieties than too many. On Alpine slopes and South African veldt Nature scatters her flowers in wide drifts of one species and this should be our guide in the wild garden. A flower that singly is insignificant, when growing in grouped thousands forms a feature in the landscape. With regard to some of the more vigorous exotics, many of which are totally unsuited to border culture, grouping is often unnecessary, thus a large clump of *Polygonum cuspidatum* has a fine effect in an isolated position. Such details of grouping will occur to anyone who has reverently studied Nature's scheme of arrangement and if her suggestions are faithfully carried out the wild garden will possess a charm for the artistic eye that borders and beds however well planted are powerless to rival. Many plants are indeed far happier in wood, meadow or moist dell than they are in even the best cultivated border. Some are of opinion that subjects once planted in the wild garden should be

left severely alone to win the mastery over the established occupants of the soil or to succumb as fate may will. In many cases, such as that of the stronger Narcissi, this let alone policy may be followed with successful results but in others a certain amount of solicitude is advisable in order to aid the successful establishment of the plants. It is often desirable to provide a deep and rich root-run and to root out all strong-growing herbage for three feet around the proposed site of the plant. Even in good borders herbaceous plants often fail to become established the first season, and in untilled ground, perhaps poor and certainly filled with the roots of the natives of the soil, it is courting disaster not to give the new introduction the best start possible. If it is worth planting it is worth the endeavour to give it such assistance that it may become permanently naturalised. Herbaceous pæonies may be cited as providing a case in point, since a rich and deep root-run and deliverance from competing herbage of a rank nature will compass their establishment in a far shorter space of time than if they were planted in unprepared ground, and subsequently left alone, when they might very possibly succumb instead of forming masses of bright colour in the early summer year after year. Even such a rampant grower as *Clematis montana*, an invaluable climber for garlanding trees and rough places in the wild garden, shows its appreciation of liberal treatment at the start—and it must be remembered that with all plants a good start is half the battle—by clambering to a height of thirty feet, while another, planted at the same time, but in poor unmanured soil, will have ascended scarcely ten feet. Having put in a plea for the good planting and after care of the newly introduced occupants of the wild garden until they have become established and are able to hold their own with the native vegetation, the question of the procural of the plants arises. To purchase

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these from a nurseryman and at once plant them out where they are intended to spend the remainder of their natural lives, is merely courting disaster. When they are bought they should be planted in a well-tilled and enriched border in the kitchen garden, or elsewhere, and carefully attended to for a season or two, when, having attained good size and robust health they may be transferred to their permanent quarters. The best plan is, however, to grow plants on from seed, cuttings, or divisions in a reserve garden, and then to plant them out when large enough. The situations having been prepared for their reception, a dull day can be waited for in the autumn, when the ground is moist, and with good balls of soil round their roots they may be transferred to their appointed places without experiencing the slightest check. Pæonies are best moved in September, and other herbaceous subjects while their leaves are yet green, as then their roots are enabled to take hold of the new soil before the winter. The planter of the wild garden should guard against being oversanguine, and thus laying himself open to disappointment. It is too much to expect that every introduction will thrive. Climates, soils and other conditions vary so much in the British Isles that the subject which flourishes in one locality may very possibly languish or die in another, for even in the tilled garden a plant that succeeds admirably in one spot may refuse, even with the most careful culture, to become established in another not many miles distant.

One merit of the wild garden is that it needs no continual endeavour to keep it neat, a necessity in the case of the beds and paths around the house. The larger herbaceous perennials are allowed to wither and die in the same manner as the native herbage. In woods, and where there are deciduous trees, the falling leaves lodge between the stems, and are there held to rot and enrich

the earth. Here the wind that swirls the dead leaves to and fro about the trim garden plots has but little effect, the countless tree trunks and myriad interlacing branchlets forming an effectual barrier, as may be verified by anyone who seeks the recesses of a wood during a gale, even in the winter when the trees are bare of leaves. In the spring may be seen the tall dead stems of lilies that have never known a stake still standing upright, proof positive that they have escaped the rude buffetings endured by their relatives in the open border. These considerations lead to the recognition of how much plant-life generally owes to the encompassing shield of the wood. Many subjects, such as bamboos, suffer far more damage from biting winds than from severe frost, provided the air be still. Moreover, the wood does not limit its protection to the winter season alone, for in the summer heat when wavering exhalations arise from the baked earth beyond its confines, it provides a cool retreat gratefully appreciated by many a lowly plant. Such things as the Cyclamen and Hepatica are never as happy in the open border as they are in the shade of a wood. With regard to dwarf-growing plants, for many of which cliff-ledges or steep, rocky slopes offer desirable sites, an early autumnal visit is desirable, especially the first season after planting, in order that their condition may be noted, for it is not wise policy on the part of the planter of a wild garden to allow any of his small *protégées* to slip through his hands for the want of a little timely assistance. Sometimes a light mulch of leaf-mould and sand into which the surface roots may run, will save the life of a plant that would otherwise have succumbed to the winter. Sometimes a change of exposure may appear desirable, sometimes a too exuberant neighbour needs reduction or removal, and if, happily, none of these labours of love are required, the proprietor's tour of inspection will have proved all the more satisfactory.



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The following lists, though not professing to be exhaustive, give a fair selection of plants suitable for wild gardens of various descriptions. The majority of those named possess a sufficiently robust constitution to thrive, if afforded the different conditions of soil and site recommended, while in the case of the less accommodating subjects successes should far out-number failures, provided that due care is taken to study their individual preferences.

## BULBS

*NARCISSUS*.—This as the most effective of all bulbous plants for naturalising in the wild garden merits earliest notice. Beautiful pictures may be obtained by planting distinct varieties by the thousands in meadows, orchards, parks and open woodland glades. The advantage of these and other spring-blooming bulbs is that they flower before the grass commences to grow, and their leaves are withered before hay-making time, so that they may be planted in fields laid down to grass without interfering with the annual mowing. Planting is easily accomplished by raising the turf with the spade, placing the bulb in the cut made and treading back the sod. Care should be taken that the groups are informal in outline. Too often Narcissi may be observed planted in lines, circles, oblongs, ovals, or in little clumps at equal distances apart. Such arrangement entirely banishes all semblance of the natural effect which it should be the aim of the planter to produce. When blossoming, the flowers should appear like cloud-drifts on the grass, closely massed towards the central line of the group and more sparsely scattered at its verge, with here and there an outlying colony distant a pace or two from the main body. On no account should mixed collections be naturalised, since these exhibit such diversity of height, colour, habit and time of flowering that they create no sense of repose but rather one of irritating patchiness. Groups should be composed of a single variety and should be arranged at a sufficient distance apart for one to form a picture by itself. This does not apply to

early and late flowering species which may be massed close to each other without prejudicing the effect, since the flowers of the former will have withered before the latter has commenced to expand its blossoms. In some soils certain species appear to be more at home in grass than in tilled ground, this being the case with *N. pallidus præcox*, *N. obvallaris*, *N. tortuosus* and its allies and *Queen of Spain* in diverse localities. Good varieties for naturalising are the Tenby Daffodil (*N. obvallaris*), a golden yellow trumpet, and one of the earliest to flower; *Golden Spur*, *maximus* and *Emperor*, yellow trumpets; *Horsfieldii*, *Empress*, *Grandee* and the newer *Victoria*, bicolor trumpets, with the white trumpet, *Madame de Graaff*, where money is little object; *Queen of Spain*, a small, clear, yellow trumpet; the great incomparabilis *Sir Watkin*, and others of the same section such as *Stella*, *Cynosure* and *Frank Miles*, the Star Daffodils (*N. Leedsii*), *N. Burbidgei*, *Barrii conspicuus* and the Pheasant's eye group, of which the most easily procurable are the early *poeticus ornatus*, the later flowering *poeticus poetarum* and *poeticus recurvus* and the double Gardenia-flowered daffodil (*poeticus plenus*). Small growing species such as *N. minimus*, *N. cyclamineus* and *N. triandrus* are better suited by pockets of porous soil on some rocky slope, where they will often reproduce themselves freely from seed.

*Allium*.—A race better fitted for the wild garden than the border, on account of the garlic-like smell emitted from the bruised leaves. Many species may be naturalised, the most effective being the white *A. neapolitanum* and the yellow *A. Moly*.

*Chionodoxa*.—Glory of the Snow. Charming blue-flowered spring bulbs. *C. sardensis* is the deepest coloured, but *C. Luciliae* has larger flowers with a greater proportion of white in them. They are

best planted on sunny banks where the grass does not grow strongly. *C. Alleni* and *C. grandiflora* have larger flowers, but for effect in masses are no improvement on the before-mentioned species.

*Colchicum*.—Meadow Saffron. These are pretty naturalised in short grass at the edge of glades, the green adding to the attractiveness of their leafless flowers. The commonest forms are *C. autumnale* and its white variety, but there are numerous other autumn-blooming species that may be utilised.

*Crocus*.—The Dutch Crocus in its varied tints, yellow, purple and white are excellent for planting beneath deciduous trees, coming into flower almost ere the snow-drops have departed, and spreading sheets of colour over the ground. Even beneath beech-trees they will succeed. Rabbits and pheasants are their worst enemies, and where these are plentiful it is impossible to establish them. The early flowering *C. Imperati* is pretty, with its soft colouring, on a bank where the grass does not grow rankly, as is the autumn-blooming *C. speciosus* with its violet-coloured flowers and orange anthers.

*Cyclamen*.—The best of these for naturalising are *C. coum*, which bears its deep cherry-coloured flowers while winter is yet with us and of which there is a white variety, and *C. neapolitanum* or *hederæfolium*, an autumn bloomer with large marbled leaves produced before the flowers fade. These leaves are particularly handsome through the winter months. The corms attain an immense size sometimes being a foot in diameter. This cyclamen, of which there are red and white forms, does well beneath evergreens, and will carpet the ground under large specimens of *Pénus insignis* with its lovely foliage. *C. coum* is best planted on a partially shaded bank where it will increase rapidly by self-sown seed. Cyclamens succeed best in porous soil. In the south-west *C. persicum* may be naturalised.



*Eranthis hyematis*.—Winter Aconite. This delightful little flower, which expands its bright gold blossoms above their Elizabethan ruffs of foliage in the early days of the year, makes a charming picture when naturalised by the thousand beneath deciduous trees where its sheet of bright yellow gleams afar. Although thriving in some soils it does not do so in all. *E. cilicicus* is a newer introduction.

*Erythronium*.—Dog's-tooth Violet. The common European *E. dens canis*, with rosy and white blossoms and spotted leaves is well known, and there are several American species of late introduction, such as *E. giganteum*, *E. revolutum*, *E. grandiflorum* and others that may also be employed. A gritty, porous soil that does not dry up in the summer, and where the grass is not too vigorous suits them.

*Fritillaria*.—The member of this family most generally seen in gardens is *F. imperialis*, the Crown Imperial. This fine species grows to a height of four feet, and with its drooping yellow or orange-red bells looks well in open spaces in the woods or in front of shrubberies. The Snake's-head Fritillary, *F. meleagris*, especially its white variety, is charming when naturalised in damp meadows.

*Galanthus*.—Snowdrop. There are few more beautiful sights than that afforded by countless thousands of these chaste flowers blossoming beneath the trees in sheltered woods and grassy glades. They are said to succeed better in the north than in the south of England, but in the latter locality they flourish and multiply in the cool soil of shady woods. Besides the common Snowdrop, *G. nivalis*, other species, such as *G. Elwesii*, *G. latifolius* and *G. plicatus* may be planted.

*Leucojum*.—Snowflake. *L. vernus*, the early-blooming species is of rather dwarf habit and is seen to advantage on a grassy slope. The summer-flowering *L. aestivum*

SNOWDROPS NATURALISED





is a stronger grower, attaining a height of over two feet and flourishes in the grass by the waterside.

*Lilium*.—Many species of this stately family may be planted with charming effect and every prospect of success in the more open places in the woods. Partial shade is desirable, but the plants should receive a certain amount of sunshine during the day. *L. auratum* delights in a natural peaty soil, and in damper spots, such as the low banks of a stream or ground through which water from a higher level oozes, the Swamp Lilies, *L. pardalinum*, *L. superbum* and *L. canadense* will prove at home. The white Madonna Lily, *L. candidum*, does well in a variety of soils and conditions when not attacked by the disease, and may well be planted largely in varying sites. The Orange Lily, almost as old a garden favourite as the Madonna Lily, possesses a most vigorous constitution and should be massed at the edge of open glades, at the meetings of woodland paths and similar positions. *L. pyrenaicum*, the earliest Lily to bloom, is better suited to the wild garden than the border, on account of its strong and rather unpleasant scent, its chrome-yellow flowers and bright orange anthers having a striking effect when seen against green foliage from a little distance. Large masses of the noble *L. giganteum*, from the Himalayas, bearing their lofty ivory-white bloom-spires, ten feet and more in height, present a grand appearance in a sheltered woodland dell, and several other species may be grown with success, such as the buff *L. excelsum* or *testaceum*, *L. Martagon* and its white form, the scarlet Turk's-cap, *L. chalcedonicum*, unequalled in its colouring, the newly-introduced, yellow *L. Henryi*, the sulphur *L. Szovitzianum*, and in the sunlight at the edge of the wood dwarfer species, such as varieties of the *elegans* and *umbellatum* groups, of which there are many fine forms ranging in colour from deep crimson to palest yellow. The latest flowering of



all the Lilies, *L. tigrinum*, must on no account be omitted, its two strongest varieties *L. tigrinum splendens* and *L. t. Fortunei* being selected. Experiments may be made with many others that will possibly prove more at home in the wood than in the border. Of these *L. Humboldtii*, *L. longiflorum*, *L. Brownii*, *L. speciosum*, *L. sulphureum*, may be mentioned, with *L. rubellum* for dry half-shaded banks.

*Montbretia*.—These autumn-flowering plants, with their brilliant orange-scarlet flower-scapes, are most effective when growing in drifts in the open spaces of steeply-sloping woods. In such a site the corms do not get so crowded as in the border, while the grass and other vegetation shields them from harm in the winter.

*Muscari*.—Grape Hyacinth. Pretty little plants with spikes of beaded blue flowers, seen at their best when growing in the short grass on banks under leafless trees. *M. botryoides*, *M. conicum* Heavenly Blue, *M. latifolium* and *M. (Hyacinthus) azureus amphibolis* are effective kinds.

*Ornithogalum*.—Star of Bethlehem. The dwarfer species such as *O. nutans* and *O. umbellatum* look well, associated with Scillas or Chionodoxas, on knolls and banks, while the tall-growing *O. pyramidale* is effective massed against a background of foliage.

*Scilla*.—Everyone knows our native Wood Hyacinth or "Bluebell," that at the close of spring veils the ground with the azure of the sky and that, though common, remains the most beautiful of a lovely family. Other species adapted for naturalisation are the early-flowering *S. bifolia* and *S. sibirica* with their white forms, both of which being of dwarf habit thrive best on banks of light soil sparsely covered with grass. *S. hispanica* or *campanulata* and *S. italica* succeed in warm soil, and *S. peruviana* with its Yucca-like leaves and pyramidal flower-head, though not strictly hardy, will generally weather

the winter on a steep rocky slope with southern exposure.

*Triteleia uniflora*, also known as *Milla* and *Brodicæa*, may be established on sunny grass banks in the south-west where, in April, it produces dense masses of white star-flowers.

*Tulipa*.—The British *T. sylvestris* is naturally easily established, and others of the hardier and more brilliant species and varieties should be tried, since they have a bright effect in the grass and many are cheap.

## TALL AND MEDIUM-SIZED PLANTS

THE species here enumerated will for the most part become established in the wild garden and hold their own against moderately strong-growing herbage provided their roots are enabled to obtain a firm hold of the ground without being overcrowded by native vegetation. Many of them are indeed of such rampant growth that even the most robust interlopers are obliged to relinquish the contest defeated and in the case of less vigorous subjects, which it is wished to naturalise, periodical attention to their needs will generally render them capable of attaining a healthful maturity.

*Acanthus*.—Noble foliage plants. *A. latifolius* is the finest species, clumps, under favourable circumstances, attaining a diameter of over six feet and bearing lofty flower-spikes seven feet or more in height. Its great arching leaves, deeply cut and glossy are most handsome and characteristic. Other less ornamental species are *A. spinosissimus*, *A. hispanicus* and *A. mollis*.

*Achillea*.—Some of the stronger-growing of this family, ranging in height from two feet to four feet, are well adapted to the wild garden. Amongst these may be named *A. Eupatorium*, *A. millefolium roseum* and *A. ptarmica* with its double form known as *The Pearl*.

*Aconitum*.—Many of these may be grown, one of the best being the old Monkshood, *A. Napellus*, which holds its own amongst the coarsest vegetation and produces its tall blue flower-heads freely. Other species that can be employed are the yellow-flowered *A. lycoctonum*. *A. autumnale*, *A. chinense* and *A. japonicum*.

*Agapanthus*.—Only in the south-west can this splendid plant be permanently established in the open ground, but in that district striking effects are afforded by large clumps of *A. umbellatus* in full flower on sheltered grass slopes.

*Agave americana*.—Another subject only suited for naturalising in the south-west, where it succeeds admirably on sunny southern slopes or on rocky banks. There the variegated variety also thrives and towering candelabrum-like flower-spikes twenty feet and more in height are occasionally to be seen. The leaves are grand in form and gigantic in size being sometimes over eight feet in length.

*Alstroemeria*.—*A. aurantiaca* (which is a plant difficult to eradicate from the cultivated border) if planted at sufficient depth, is perfectly hardy and spreads rapidly. It is best suited by a sunny position in light warm soil, preferably on a slope. Height, three to four feet.

*Anchusa*.—*A. italica* is a tall branching plant, six feet in height, bearing numbers of small flowers of an intense blue, through many weeks of the summer. There is a fine, large-flowered variety with blossoms an inch in diameter that is far superior to the type.

*Anemone japonica* is an excellent plant for naturalising in the open spaces of woods or at the verge of sunny dells. The white variety, *Honorine Jobert*, is one of the best, and in good soil attains a height of five feet, growing so strongly as to overpower all but the rankest herbage.

*Angelica*.—A native plant, valuable for its handsome foliage.

*Antirrhinum*.—Chiefly useful for rocky slopes where a bright show may be provided by scattering some seeds broadcast. Snapdragons need little soil and will grow to a height of two feet on the ledge of a brick wall in a pinch of earth. Dwarf varieties should not be employed.



*Anthericum*.—These are mostly plants of somewhat limited growth, the major form of *A. liliastrum* reaching a height of two feet and bearing comparatively large drooping white flowers.

*Aquilegia*.—Columbines are very beautiful, but the only species likely to thrive in the grass is *A. vulgaris*, of which there are many forms, a single blue that grows to a height of three feet being very attractive. It is particularly pretty in orchards following earlier flowering Snowdrops, Primroses, Bluebells and Anemones. American species and those from the European mountain ranges are best suited by open positions and porous, gritty soil that does not readily become dried up.

*Arundo*.—*A. conspicua*, the New Zealand Reed, mistaken by many for Pampas Grass, is an even more ornamental subject, its plumed heads arching gracefully on their slender shafts. A sheltered site is requisite if the shafts are to be protected from breakage by the wind. *A. Donax*, the Giant Reed, is a noble foliage plant, in good soil sending up shoots fifteen feet and more in height, pennoned with blue-green leaves. Isolated clumps in a conspicuous position have a fine effect. There is a variegated form less hardy than the type.

*Asclepias*.—Many of these silk-weeds, such as *A. acuminata*, and *A. incarnata* are vigorous perennials, while the handsome *A. tuberosa*, with its bright orange flowers, is of dwarfer growth and requires protection from encroaching herbage, and warm, dry soil.

*Asparagus*.—*A. officinalis*, invaluable as a vegetable, is also most decorative in the wild garden. A small clump with a dozen or so tall, feathery shoots having a graceful effect.

*Asphodel*.—The great branching *A. ramosus* will grow on stony slopes, lane-sides or in open woods, and has a far better effect in such places than in the border. The yellow-flowered *A. cretica* is also easily naturalised.



BAMBOOS



*Aster*.—Michaelmas Daisy. Many of the more vigorous species and varieties are quite at home in the wild garden, and when once established need no care. They look well, planted in open spaces in woods or massed on the outside of coverts, but should not be placed immediately beneath trees. Those of the *Novi Belgii* and *Novæ Angliæ* sections are perhaps best fitted for naturalising.

*Astragalus*.—Some of the taller-growing of this family, such as the Siberian *A. galegiformis*, which grows to a height of four feet, are fairly effective plants.

*Astrantia*.—Plants of no great beauty but possessing distinct characteristics which render them quaintly interesting. *A. maxima* grows to a height of two feet.

*Bamboo*.—These are invaluable for their graceful growth and add much to the charm and interest of the scene when in vigorous health. They require a sheltered situation, suffering far more from cold gales than from frost, of which many of the species will endure twenty degrees. The bamboos are now divided into two sections *Arundinaria* and *Phyllostachys*. The best known is *A. japonica* formerly called *Bambusa Metake*. Bamboos should be planted preferably in deep valleys. Where they are grouped the clumps of the taller-growing species should be at least twenty-five feet apart or the arching wands will interlace. Though where space permits twenty species or more may well be planted, limited room makes a selection imperative. The following six are elegant species:—*Arundinaria nobilis*, which in Cornwall attains a height of twenty-five feet; *A. Falconeri*, a particularly graceful species; *Phyllostachys mitis*, a tall grower, with *A. nitida*, *P. viridiglaucescens* and *P. Henonis*, three very ornamental kinds; while the broad-leaved *Bambusa palmata*, a dwarf grower, may be grouped in the vicinity to accentuate



the height of the taller forms. Bamboos should be planted in May in deeply dug and enriched soil, and should be heavily mulched in the autumn.

*Baptisia*.—*B. australis* is a handsome plant, growing to a height of five feet, and bearing spikes of blue, Pea-like flowers.

*Bocconia*.—*B. cordata* forms a feature in open spaces of the woods, and is a particularly striking object with its tall spires of inflorescence, often eight feet in height, ivory white and reddish buff in colour, and its large, deeply-cut foliage blue-green above and silvery white beneath.

✓ *Campanula*.—Some of the more robust of the bell flowers will thrive in the wild garden. Chief among these is *C. latifolia* and its more beautiful white form, *C. grandis* and its white variety. *C. lactiflora* and *C. rapunculoides* should also be planted. Site, open spots clear of rank herbage.

*Centaurea*.—*C. babylonica* is a striking silvery-leaved plant, growing to a height of ten feet. *C. macrocephala* reaches a height of five feet, and bears great, golden-yellow flower-heads.

*Centranthus*.—*C. ruber*, popularly known as Valerian, is a weed in the south-west, growing from every cranny of the cliffs and out of solid masonry walls in many places. The common type is pink flowered, but there is a white-flowered form and also a deep crimson, the last two being very effective when associated to the exclusion of the pink. It grows readily anywhere.

*Chrysanthemum maximum*.—A strong-growing plant five feet in height bearing large, white, Daisy-like flowers. A dwarfer variety producing larger and more numerous flowers has been introduced of late years.

*Cimicifuga*.—*C. racemosa* is a distinct and handsome plant, growing to a height of five feet, and bearing long

feathery ivory-white flower-racemes which droop gracefully. A partially shaded site is best suited to its requirements.

*Cineraria maritima*, syn. *Senecio Cineraria*.—A native of southern Europe with silvery foliage, bearing clusters of yellow flowers. It can be established on sandy cliffs in the warmer districts of England and Ireland.

*Cortaderia*.—Pampas Grass. A handsome subject well-known in English gardens.

*Crambe*.—*C. cordifolia*, which belongs to the Seakale family, is particularly ornamental, having bold foliage and tall flower-heads composed of dense sprays of tiny white blossoms which show up well against a green background.

*Cynara*.—Globe Artichoke. One of the noblest foliage plants, the gray-green, deeply-divided leaves arching downwards with a graceful poise. When it perfects on its lofty stems the great violet-mauve flowers the colour-effect is very attractive. Every wild garden should contain it.

✓ *Delphinium*.—Perennial Larkspurs, with their tall closely-set bloom-spikes ranging in colour from palest blue to purple, often eight feet or more in height, present an attractive feature. They should be given rich soil at the start, the best period for planting being the spring, just as they are breaking into growth. Only the strongest growing varieties should be planted in the wild garden.

✓ *Dentaria*.—The purple-flowered *D. digitata* and its white form are vigorous perennials reaching a height of two feet. They do well in moist, porous soil in a partially shaded position.

✓ *Dianthus barbatus*.—Sweet William. Old-fashioned cottage-garden flowers which will be found to succeed in good soil in open sunny spots if kept clear of coarse herbage. Colours should be massed and not mixed

indiscriminately. A pretty variety of late introduction is *Elizabeth*, pale salmon-pink in colour.

✓ *Dicentra*.—Formerly known as *Dielytra*. *D. spectabilis*, the Lyre Flower, is an old favourite in gardens, and under good cultivation reaches a height of three feet with a spread of five feet. Its graceful, drooping, rosy-flowered racemes are exquisite in colour and contour. *D. eximia* is a plant of lesser growth, but well worthy of naturalising.

✓ *Digitalis*.—Foxglove. The white variety is unequalled for wild garden planting, vistas of snowy spires thrown into strong relief by a deep green background forming delightful pictures. A little clearing of the ground before seed is sown is all that is necessary, as the plants will hold their own against the strongest competition and renew themselves from self-sown seed.

*Doronicum*.—*D. plantagineum excelsum* Harpur Crewe is the finest of the family, throwing up its great yellow stars to a height of five feet. It is valuable owing to its commencing to expand its blooms earlier in the spring than most showy perennials. It thrives in open spots in woods and such-like situations.

*Echinops*.—Globe Thistle. Stately plants of distinct habit growing from three feet to seven feet in height, having spiny leaves, and bearing globular flower-heads of a steel-blue colour that give them an unique appearance. *E. ruthenicus*, *E. Ritro* and *E. exaltata* are good species.

*Elymus*.—Lyme Grass. *E. arenarius*, a British plant, is effective by reason of its long, narrow, drooping leaves and may be used for wood margins or sandy banks.

*Eremurus*.—If given good soil and a sheltered site there is no reason why these grand plants should not succeed in the wild garden as well as many of the Lilies. Surrounding herbage, which could be cleared away during the summer, would protect the young growth from the





PAMPAS GRASS





frost by which plants are often injured in the border, and an occasional mulch of old hot-bed manure would induce vigorous growth. A dozen towering spikes of *E. Elwesianus* rising from an open woodland dell would produce a fine effect.

*Erigeron*.—*E. speciosus*, formerly known as *Stenactis speciosa*, is a pleasing plant bearing large mauve, yellow-centred flowers like magnified Michaelmas Daisies. It grows to a height of three feet, and remains in bloom for a long period.

*Eryngium*.—Sea Holly. Plants mostly of a Thistle-like habit with spiny leaves valuable for the beautiful metallic blue of the flower-bracts in some species. *E. amethystinum* and *E. Oliverianum* are the best coloured, but many others are worth growing, notably *E. pandanifolium* with spined leaves six feet in length and flower stems ten feet in height.

*Eupatorium*.—Some of these robust perennials such as *E. ageratoides*, *E. aromaticum*, *E. purpureum*, and in warm localities *E. Weimmannianum* may be utilised in the wild garden. They are too rampant for the border.

*Ferns*.—For the moister and shadier portions of woods our larger native ferns, such as the Royal Fern, the Lady Fern, the Male Fern, and others will form a fitting embellishment, but there are exotic species that may also be employed with the best results. *Onoclea sensibilis*, *Struthiopteris germanica*, the Ostrich Fern, *Adiantum pedatum*, the Bird's-foot Maidenhair, and the leathery-leaved *Lomaria magellanica* all add greatly to the beauty of woods. The last is doubtfully hardy, but is far more so than *Woodwardia radicans* which may be naturalised without fear in the south-west. It may appear ridiculous to speak of Tree Ferns in connection with the English wild garden, but there are some specially favoured spots along the south-western coast where they are naturalised with the most charming results. In a certain

narrow, winding dell embowered in trees that opens on a Cornish river about a mile from its outlet into the sea, between twenty and thirty fine specimens of that noble Tree Fern, *Dicksonia antarctica* are growing, the fronds of some having a spread of twelve feet. These ferns standing amid natural surroundings, in which no trace of man's hand is discernible, give the effect of being indigenous to the spot and form a picture as delightful as it is rare in this country.

*Ferula*.—Fennel. *F. communis*, which is one of the best, is naturalised in some parts of England, where it may be seen in masses by the roadside. It is a rampant grower, often exceeding ten feet in height. Its chief beauty lies in its exquisitely delicate foliage which renders it well worthy of a place in the wild garden.

*Funkia*.—These are most decorative foliage plants succeeding as well in the shade as in the sunshine. *F. grandiflora* has the most conspicuous flowers, these being fairly large and white, but as a race they owe their popularity rather to the form and colouring of their leaves than to their flowers. *F. Sieboldii* with large cordate foliage of a glaucous tint is the handsomest of the race. They should be associated with lilies in partially-shaded spots in the woods.

*Galega*.—Goat's Rue. *G. officinalis*, the type, with its mauve-blue flowers is pretty but cannot compare for effect with its white variety. Both grow to a height of five feet, and are smothered in their pea-like flowers in the summer.

*Geranium*.—The more robust species are easily established. Of these *G. pratense*, *G. phaeum*, *G. sanguineum* and its white form, and *G. sylvaticum* may be mentioned. Dwarf-growing species are better planted in spots where they will not have to contend against the native vegetation.

*Glaucium*.—Horned Poppy. *G. luteum* is common on sandy and pebbly ground by the sea coast and will

flourish on shaly slopes. There is a handsome red-flowered variety of this plant.

*Gypsophila*.—*G. paniculata*, such a favourite in the border and for cutting, is best planted on a bank where its billowy maze of flower-sprays may display its beauty to the best advantage.

*Helianthus*.—Perennial Sunflower. These are most attractive in the autumn when they light up the landscape with their sheaves of golden flowers. Among the best are *H. latiflorus*, *H. rigidus* Miss Mellish, *H. multiflorus* and *H. giganteus*.

*Helleborus*.—Christmas and Lenten Roses. In a partially-shaded site, in deep cool soil where herbage is not permitted to over-run them, these should do well. Such a spot is sometimes to be found at the foot of a high lane-bank. Of the *H. niger* section *H. n. altifolius* is the strongest grower, while the Lenten Roses, which are hybrids of *H. olympicus*, are all vigorous. These latter range in colour from pure white to reddish purple, many being prettily spotted with rose on a white ground. Some of the other species are interesting and will repay naturalising.

*Hemerocallis*.—Day Lily. A fine race of plants that prefers a rather moist soil. The strongest growers are *H. fulva* and the newer *H. aurantiaca major*. Other pleasing species are: *H. flava*, *H. Dumortieri* and *H. Middendorffii*.

*Heracleum*.—Giant Cow Parsnip. *H. giganteum* is eminently fitted for the roughest and most congested sites, since it will quickly assert its superior vigour against the most rapacious neighbours and throw up its great white flower-umbel to a height of twelve feet. Its foliage is large and handsomely cut, but it should not be planted where it may incommode less sturdy exotics.

*Hesperis*.—Rocket. The single form of this plant is worth massing here and there.



*Hypericum*.—St John's Wort. *H. calycinum* will succeed in a position where nothing else will thrive. Stony banks, dry sandy stretches and rough wall faces it increases in, and is pretty when bearing its yellow flowers. The shrubby *H. Moserianum* is also good.

*Inula*.—*I. glandulosa* is a handsome plant growing to a height of three feet and bearing large, narrow-rayed star flowers of a bright orange.

*Iris*.—Many of this family are well adapted to growing in the wild garden. Of these the Flag, or so-called German Irises, which should be planted on open slopes and banks, afford a wide choice of ornamental named varieties of which the following is a good selection:—*Princess of Wales*, the best white; *flavescens*, pale yellow; *atropurpurea*, deepest violet; *florentina*, pearl-grey, scented; *pallida* and *pallida dalmatica*, different shades of lavender, very fragrant; *Madame Chereau*, white fringed with blue, *Bridesmaid*, white and lavender, *Victorine*, white and purple; *Apollo*, yellow and crimson, *Queen of the May*, rosy lilac, and *Arnolds*, purple and fawn. *I. ochroleuca* or *orientalis* is a fine tall-growing species sometimes reaching a height of almost six feet and producing a succession of white and yellow flowers. *I. aurea* and *I. Monnieri* are similar in growth to the last-named but bear yellow flowers. Rich and somewhat damp soil is recommended for these varieties, but as a matter of fact they thrive and flower abundantly in a dry and stony site.

*Lunaria*.—Honesty. This biennial is easily raised from seed scattered broadcast. The white variety should alone be grown, the magenta colouring of the flowers of the type being particularly crude and unpleasing. After the blooming is past the flat, silvery seed-vessels give a pretty effect through the winter. After being once established this plant will reproduce itself by self-sown seed.

*Lupinus*.—The herbaceous *L. polyphyllus*, of which

there are both blue and white-flowered forms, is a robust plant making a brave display when in full bloom, and the Tree Lupins, yellow and white, which form great bushes six feet and more in height and as much in diameter are also most effective. The latter generally die when they reach a large size, but they are easily raised from seed and seedlings should be ready to take the place of those that succumb.

*Lychnis*.—The scarlet *L. chalcedonica*, an old garden plant, is very valuable on account of the vivid colour of its flower-heads and grows to a height of over three feet. It will thrive in any soil, but attains its finest dimensions in that which is rich and deep. *L. Haageana*, with larger blossoms of the same tint, is of dwarfer growth.

*Molosperrum*.—*M. circutarium* is a fine foliage plant with large deeply divided leaves that enjoys a rich, moist soil.

*Monarda*.—Bergamot, Beebalm, the latter name arising from the fact that the insides of the new straw skeps used to be rubbed with it, under the impression that the smell would prevent the bees from deserting. This old-fashioned plant has a fine effect when naturalised in large masses outside a shrubbery or wood, the deep crimson of the flower-heads being quite a feature in the landscape.

✓ *Myrrhis odorata*.—Sweet Cicely. A native plant growing to a height of two feet having delicately cut leaves and white flowers.

*Oenothera*.—Evening Primrose. *Æ. Lamarckiana*, which grows to a height of five feet and bears large yellow flowers, is an excellent wild garden plant, being a fair sight along the verges of woodland spaces after the heat of the day is past.

*Onopordon*.—Cotton Thistle. Vigorous plants of a thistle-like habit, some attaining a height of ten

feet. Suitable for such places as recommended for *Heracleum*.

*Pæonia*.—The deep crimson *P. officinalis* when planted in colonies in the grass makes a bright picture at flowering time, the flesh-pink form being also very pretty. As Pæonies must be strong to be ornamental it is well to give them a rich and deep root-run to start with, to keep the coarser herbage from crowding the plants, and to apply stimulants in the shape of an occasional mulch of hot-bed manure.

✓ *Papaver*.—The giant Oriental Poppy with its great flowers of vivid scarlet glowing in the sunlight is one of the most exhilarating sights in nature. It may be grouped with telling effect outside shrubberies or by open woodland glades.

*Polygonatum*.—Solomon's Seal. A good plant for semi-shaded spots in woods and by the waterside. Its leaves have pretty autumnal tints.

*Polygonum*.—*P. cuspidatum* is a fine plant for an isolated position, and is particularly comely when bearing its cream-white flower-panicles. It grows to a height of eight feet, and soon forms a huge clump. *P. sachalineuse* is another handsome species with larger leaves and less conspicuous flowers.

*Pulmonaria*.—Some of the strongest of these do well under the shade of trees.

*Pyrethrum uliginosum*.—A vigorous herbaceous plant, six feet in height, bearing large, white daisy-like flowers on graceful slender stems.

*Ranunculus aconitifolius*.—This and its double variety, known as Fair Maids of France, succeed if naturalised in fairly moist soil and not allowed to become overgrown.

*Rheum*.—Rhubarb. One of the best of these is *R. Emodi* which is a grand foliage plant.

*Rudbeckia*.—Ornamental autumn-flowering plants.

## TALL AND MEDIUM-SIZED PLANTS 27

One of the best is *R. laciniata* *Golden Glow*. As it, however, grows to a height of seven feet or more, it should have a sheltered position lest it be damaged by wind. Its flowers are yellow.

*Saxifraga*.—The large-leaved *S. cordifolia* or *Megasea* section is well adapted for planting at the edge of shrubberies and spinneys, and the double Meadow Saxifrage, *S. granulata fl. pl.*, is perfectly at home in the grass under deciduous trees, veiling the ground beneath the fresh green leaves, early in June, with thousands of white flowers. The latter is, however, scarcely eligible for this list as it does not exceed eighteen inches in height.

*Scabiosa*.—The giant Scabious, *S. elata*, bearing pale yellow flowers, and growing to a height of eight feet is an excellent plant for the wild garden.

*Silphium*.—*S. perfoliatum*, the Compass Plant, is a fine-foliaged subject, with deeply-cut leaves a foot or more in length and grows to a height of over six feet. *S. laciniatum* is also ornamental both in flowers and foliage.

*Solidago*.—Golden Rod. Autumnal flowering plants of vigorous habit bearing bright yellow flowers better suited to the wild garden than to the border.

*Spiraea*.—Meadow Sweet. Many of the herbaceous species will add much to the beauty and interest of the wild garden. A fairly moist position should be chosen for them. Handsome kinds are the tall *S. gigantea* and *S. aruncus* with ivory-white flower-plumes, *S. palmata* with rose-coloured blossoms and *S. venusta* with pale pink inflorescence.

*Statice*.—Sea Lavender. *S. latifolia* forms a densely-branched, spreading head of tiny lavender flowers two feet in height and often more in diameter, and is very ornamental in an open space blooming in late summer.

*Symphytum*.—Comfrey. Plants of no particular beauty,



but far better than weeds which they will soon overpower in rough places.

*Telekia*.—*T. speciosa* is a vigorous tall-growing plant with great leaves and large yellow daisy-like flowers.

*Thalictrum*.—The best of the tall species is *T. aquilegifolium*, a robust plant well known in gardens.

*Tradescantia*.—*T. virginica* is an attractive plant easily naturalised. The violet-flowered variety is to be preferred.

*Tritoma*, Syn. *Kniphofia*.—Red-hot Poker or Torch Lily. Plants giving brilliant autumnal effects. They should be massed in front of shrubs or trees in full sunlight, and should be planted where they will not suffer from stagnant moisture at the root during the winter.

*Verbascum*.—Mullein. Handsome plants, some of them valuable from their cool grey foliage and stately flower-spikes ten feet in height. Amongst the best species for the wild garden are *V. olympicum*, *V. phlomoides* and *V. vernale*.

*Veronica*.—Speedwell. Some of the strongest-growing herbaceous species are well suited for the wild garden.

*Xerophyllum*.—*X. asphodeloides* is a hardy perennial with spreading grassy leaves bearing a tall head of white blossoms.

*Yucca*.—Noble plants, both in their foliage and flowers. They should be largely grouped so that each colony may produce several bloom-spikes simultaneously. Of the larger species *Y. gloriosa* and *Y. pendula* are the best and of the smaller-growing none flower so freely as *Y. filamentosa*.

## DWARF-GROWING PLANTS

DWARF plants are more liable to be over-run than those of taller growth since they have to compete with native trailers as well as with plants of higher stature, and are thus more likely to be shut out from the sun and its life-giving rays. For such it is necessary that sites should be chosen where dense-growing herbage that would in all probability overwhelm them is absent. Mossy banks, knolls around tree-boles, spaces about the roots of upturned patriarchs of the wood, which may easily be kept clear of weeds, and similar spots offer desirable homes for many of these, while others are better suited by craggy ledge, fissures in a cliff-face, gravelly slope or moist, peaty bog-land. Where a low cliff or disused quarry is included in the grounds this may often, by a certain amount of additional labour, be converted into an excellent rock garden. One has only to think of the almost precipitous rock cuttings of a former day often met with in England, which apparently offer but the scantiest opportunity for root-hold, yet are clothed from summit to base with an infinite variety of vegetation, to realise the possibilities afforded by the living cliff. Ledges may be cut, wide at one place and narrowing gradually away to a nail's-breadth, some in the full sunshine and some in a shady exposure, while the quarried stone that falls to the base may be mixed little by little, as the work proceeds, with gritty compost fitted for the needs of the plants destined to occupy it, until it forms a solid bank of rock and soil without interstices into which the roots may run down many feet, clinging

closely to the buried stone surfaces and keeping moist and cool in the scorching summer droughts, while the foliage revels in the hot sunshine, conditions welcomed by Alpine plants and those inhabiting other mountain ranges of the world. Over the edge of the cliff *Clematis montana*, *C. flammula*, the Virgin's Bower, or even the common Traveller's Joy, *C. vitalba*, may be grown, with Honeysuckle and the trailing *Rosa Wichuriana*. In the following list some of the dwarfer plants suitable for various sites in the rock garden are briefly alluded to.

*Acena*.—*A. microphylla* is a dwarf carpeting plant useful for trailing over rocks. Though not showy it is pleasing when its small greyish leaves are set off by the globose, red-spined flower-heads.

*Achillea*.—The dwarfer species of this race are excellent rock plants, some of the hardier succeeding with a minimum of trouble. Among the most useful are *A. tomentosa* and *A. umbellata*, the former bearing yellow flowers and the latter white, its silvery leaves giving it an attractive appearance when out of flower.

*Ajuga*.—Low growing perennials bearing short upright flower-stems closely set with blue blossoms. Easy of culture in any soil. *A. Brockbanki*, a late introduction, is one of the best.

*Alyssum*.—*A. saxatile* is one of the brightest of our dwarfer spring flowers, covering large spaces of rock-work and stone edging with masses of bright yellow. There is a paler-flowered variety known as *citrina*. *A. maritima*, the Sweet Alyssum, now classed as *Koeniga*, and sometimes known as the Honey Flower from its scent, is generally treated as an annual, but in warm localities it has a perennial habit.

*Androsace*.—Charming plants but not always very amenable to culture. Perhaps the most beautiful when in good health is *A. lanuginosa* with greyish foliage and rosy-mauve flowers. It is seen at its best when hanging



SWEET ALYSSUM ON STEEP BANK





down the face of a rock. *A. sarmentosa* is another pretty species with bright rose flowers suitable for a like position. They often do well in a compost of gritty loam in a sunny exposure, especially if protected by a rock from the winter rains.

*Anemone*.—A race that provides some of our loveliest spring flowers. The charming Wood Anemone of our copse-banks is well known to all, and there are other species equally fitted to naturalisation. Of these the best is undoubtedly the bright blue *A. apennina*, which rapidly increases when planted in the woods, and requires no attention. The blue Greek Anemone, *A. blanda*, is an earlier bloomer, but should be planted on banks where the grass does not grow strongly. One of the most delightful of all the family is *A. Robinsoniana*, a variety of the Wood Anemone, but having larger flowers of a silvery blue tint. Growing on a mossy bank at the foot of an old elm, it makes one of the prettiest pictures imaginable. *A. sylvestris*, the Snow-drop Anemone, grows to a height of a foot or more and bears drooping white flowers. It thrives best in a moist porous soil in a shady site. *A. pulsatilla*, the Pasque Flower, a native of England, grows naturally on chalky downs, and the bright yellow *A. ranunculoides* is also partial to chalk. *A. fulgens*, the brilliant scarlet Mediterranean Anemone, often proves difficult to establish in the border in some localities, while flowering freely year after year in others. It sometimes becomes naturalised in the grass in England, and has flowered for eight years in a southern orchard. The Hepaticas, also Anemones, are better suited by the shade of a wood of deciduous trees than by the open border, of these there are blue, red and white as well as doubles. The great Hepatica, *A. angulosa*, with larger pale blue flowers is also very beautiful.

*Arabis*.—*A. albida* is one of the commonest rock plants,

and the earliest to bloom, commencing to flower in February in mild winters in the south-west. It will grow in any soil and exposure and spreads rapidly. The double form lately reintroduced is far more lasting than the single, the flowers resembling a miniature Stock.

*Arenaria*.—*A. balearica* is one of the most refined of spring flowering plants, covering rocks with a delicate tracery of bright-green tiny-leaved foliage starred with minute white flowers. *A. montana* bears flowers six times the size of the last-named and is of vigorous growth.

*Armeria*.—Our native Sea Pink paints the ledges of the cliffs and the higher stretches of the pebbled beach with soft colour, and several species and varieties may be used with good effect in sunny, sandy spots in the wild garden.

*Artemisia*.—*A. alpina* is a pretty little tufted plant with yellow flowers.

*Asperula odorata*—Woodruff. A native plant that should be naturalised in every wood. In many localities it spangles the lane-banks with its small white flowers with their scent of new-mown hay, and when dried has a pleasant perfume. If taken up with a good ball of soil and watered well on replanting in a shady spot, it may be removed even when in flower without flagging.

*Aster*.—*A. alpinus* bears bright-mauve yellow-centred flowers on stems six inches or so in height. It succeeds well in gritty soil in a sunny position. *A. Stracheyi* is another good dwarf species.

*Aubrietia*.—One of the most popular and decorative wall and rock plants, spreading as rapidly as the Arabis. The earliest introduced form was *A. detoidea* with pale violet flowers, but of late years numerous improved varieties have been raised of which the best-coloured are *Dr Mules*, deep purple, and *Fire King*, dark crimson.



AUERIETIA ON OLD WALL





The *Aubrietia*, like the *Arabis*, is almost indifferent to soil and exposure, but flowers most freely in a sunny site in gritty soil.

*Campanula*.—Dwarf species are admirably suited for growing among rocks and in fissures, crannies, and on ledges of a cliff. Some of the hardier, such as *C. cæspitosa*, make good carpeting plants. All are not of equally easy culture, but leaf-mould and loam in equal proportions, mixed with a liberal allowance of sand and grit, is a compost that will suit the majority. Attractive species are *C. cæspitosa*, *C. carpatica* and its varieties, *C. c. turbinata* and *C. c. pelviformis*, *C. pusilla*, *C. muralis*, *C. garganica*, *C. fragilis*, *C. isophylla* and its white variety, and *C. pulla*. Of less easy culture are *C. cenisia*, *C. Rainieri*, *C. Zoysii*, *C. mirabilis* and others.

*Cardamine*.—*C. trifolia* is a pretty spring-blooming plant with dense spreading leafage and bearing chalk-white flowers.

*Cerastium*.—Of these white-flowered dwarf perennials the most popular is the grey-leaved *C. tomentosum*. All are of the easiest culture.

*Convallaria*.—Lily of the Valley. Growing wild as it does in some districts in England, this lovely flower should be naturalised in every wood. Under deciduous trees it should be planted by the thousand, for there are few more beautiful sights than Lilies of the Valley flowering in wide drifts by the woodland ways. When once established it spreads rapidly and does not suffer from the drought. In almost every garden the beds are too crowded and can well spare a portion of their contents for the woods. Autumn is the best time for planting.

*Cornus canadensis*.—A pretty dwarf plant bearing white flowers, or rather bracts. It thrives best in damp soil.

*Corydalis*.—Fumitory. *C. lutea*, though common, and growing in some places from every cranny of the wall,

is a pretty sight, with its yellow flowers and elegant foliage, and its white variety is even more attractive. *C. bracteata*, *C. nobilis* and *C. solida* are worth growing in rocky ground.

*Dianthus*.—The Alpine Pinks are more likely to prosper on stony banks than in the border, and the Cheddar Pink, *D. cæsius*, grows and flowers freely on old wall-tops. Pink seed sown along cliff ledges where gritty soil has been scattered will be the means of creating a charming picture later on. *D. Atkinsoni* is a striking Pink of glowing crimson, and *Napoleon III.* is a double form almost as bright in colour. *D. fragrans* is a perfumed flower with feathered petals, and in *D. superbus* the petals are still more divided.

*Dodecatheon*.—American Cowslip. *D. Meadia* is a graceful plant bearing several rosy-purple drooping flowers with reflexed petals on stems a foot or so in height. There are several varieties of this plant. A rich and porous loam is best suited to its requirements, and it should be planted in a sheltered and partially shaded position.

*Dondia epipactis*. Syn. *Hacquetia*.—A pretty little dwarf-growing plant, bearing in the spring quaint pale-green flowers with yellow centres. Succeeds best in a partially shaded position.

*Draba*.—Dwarf Alpine plants bearing white or yellow flowers which, in the case of *D. gigas*, are almost an inch in diameter. They form compact cushions of foliage spreading in tufts over the ground, and are most satisfactory when planted in crevices between rocks, where they will get the full summer sun and be free from stagnant moisture at the roots during winter.

*Dryas*.—*D. Drummondii* is a dwarf trailer bearing yellow flowers on stems six inches in height. It prefers a compost of moist, peaty loam. *D. octopetala* does well in the full sunshine, covering the ground with close-

growing, dark-green leafage starred with numbers of white, yellow stamened flowers about an inch in diameter. When established it forms a spreading mass sometimes three feet across. It is found in some parts of Britain.

*Echeveria*.—Succulents best suited by gritty soil and elevated sunny positions, though many are used as edgings for flower beds.

*Epigæa repens*.—Canadian Mayflower. A charming little creeping shrub, threading its shoots through and under the fallen leaves, and bearing in the spring small, fragrant, flesh-coloured flowers. It does best in a soil of peat or leaf-mould made porous with grit and sand, and thrives in the shade of pine-woods. It should be naturalised under evergreens in English woods where it will readily become established if carefully planted.

*Epimedium*.—Plants possessing foliage of pleasing form and colour and bearing racemes of flowers yellow, red and white in tint. The best-known and most popular *E. pinnatum* cannot be classed as a dwarf-growing plant, as it sometimes attains a height of three feet. Its leaves assume an attractive bronzed hue in the autumn. *Epimediums* grow most freely in a moist, peaty soil.

*Erica*.—Heath. Dwarf Heaths are fully as indispensable in the wild garden as are the tall-growing species. Paths leading over a hill from one portion of the grounds to another may be bordered by dwarf Heaths, they may be planted on craggy ledges of rock and in the short turf on the verge of a cliff, where they will stretch a purple line against the blue of the sky. Shade and shelter are fatal to the well-being of these Heaths, which require every glint of sunlight that brightens the earth and every breath of air out of the heavens to perfect to the utmost their display, and they should be naturalised where they can enjoy these to the



full. Though they do well in a peaty soil this is not a necessity for them, since they may be seen spreading a bright mantle over heights where peat is entirely absent. The best of all the dwarf Heaths is the winter flowering *E. carnea* with its deep rose-coloured blossoms of which there is also a white variety. Other pretty species are the Irish Heath, *E. cinerea*, the Dorset Heath, *E. ciliaris*, and the Bell Heather, *E. Tetralix*. St Dabeoc's Heath, *Dabæcia* or *Menziesia polifolia*, which grows to a height of eighteen inches, and bears rose or white flowers, is a native of the west of Ireland. A breadth of the white form in full flower is one of the prettiest pictures the wild garden can afford.

*Erigeron*.—*E. mucronatus*, the Mexican Daisy, is a delightful little plant, being in bloom in the south of England for nine months out of the twelve. It will grow in the poorest and stoniest soil, and reproduces itself freely from seed. Other pleasing dwarf species are *E. glabellus*, *E. glaucus*, *E. grandiflorus*, and *E. Roylei*.

*Gentiana*.—The Gentianella, *G. acaulis*, is the most commonly met with of these beautiful flowers, and when in full bloom there are few sights to equal the sheet of deep blue that it presents. It grows best in a well-drained site, planted in soil containing a large proportion of limestone chips. *G. verna* requires porous soil, moist in summer, but which allows the winter rains to percolate freely through. *G. asclepiadea* and *G. septemfida* are of taller growth, reaching a height of eighteen inches. The former may be naturalised in the grass, and does well in damp spots.

*Geum*.—*G. montanum*, of which there is a fine variety named *grandiflorum*, bears yellow flowers in the spring, which are followed by feathery seed-vessels. *G. reptans* is a creeping species, doing well in full sun in sandy soils. It bears yellow flowers.

*Gypsophila*.—*G. cerastoides* and *G. repens* are two low growing species of easy culture with white flowers, doing well in gritty soil in full sunshine.

*Helianthemum*.—Sun Rose. Plants that make a brilliant display in the late spring and early summer, and are seen at their best when allowed to hang over a rock-face. They may also be naturalised on banks or associated with dwarf Heaths on sandy or peaty slopes. They are to be obtained in many colours, namely pale, yellow, golden, salmon, buff, *Bronze Queen* yellow with orange-red centre, pink, crimson, and double crimson.

*Hutchinsia*.—*H. alpina* is a small-leaved Alpine plant bearing quantities of little white flowers. It grows about an inch in height and spreads rapidly in gritty soil. Excellent for growing in horizontal crevices between rocks.

*Hypericum*.—Dwarf species such as *H. coris* and *H. repens* are pretty on a dry rocky bank, where they show off their small golden flowers to advantage. Gritty soil and a southern exposure in front of a rock induce a free-flowering habit.

*Iberis*.—Candytuft. These are useful plants for rough stony banks, chinks in rock walls or any dry and sunny position where their flowers will form sheets of white in the spring. *I. correaefolia* and *I. sempervirens* are the most usually grown, flourishing in any unshaded position. *I. gibraltarica*, with large light-lavender flowers nearly three inches across, which forms huge bloom-covered clumps on the perpendicular cliffs at Gibraltar, does best if planted in very gritty compost in a vertical crevice in the rock, the soil being rammed in as tightly as possible.

*Linaria*.—Toadflax. One of the loveliest dwarf species is *L. alpina* with narrow, grey-green foliage and flowers of a deep violet with a bright orange lip. It is

easily raised from seed scattered over sandy soil, and generally reproduces itself freely. Sometimes it suddenly dies out, when it should be sown anew. *L. antirrhinifolia* and *L. saxatilis* are pretty trailing perennials.

*Lithospermum*.—*L. prostratum* is a lovely plant when at its best, and may sometimes be seen covering fully six feet of rock face with a veil of deep blue. It likes a sunny position for its above-ground growth, but its roots, which travel many feet, should be able to find moisture during the driest weather, and for this reason it is well to plant where they may travel inwards to a distance beneath and behind rocks. The British *L. purpureo-cæruleum* is also pretty.

*Lychnis*.—*L. alpina*, *L. Lagasce* and *L. pyrenaica* are three interesting dwarf species best fitted for planting on ledges of the rock, whence they may scatter their seed at will. They bear pink, bright rose, and flesh-coloured flowers respectively.

*Lysimachia*.—*L. nummularia*, Creeping Jenny. This well-known trailer, commonly used in window-boxes, a native of Britain, spreads rapidly in sunny spots, its yellow flowers being very showy.

*Maianthemum bifolium*.—*Syns. Convallaria, Smilacina*. A little plant allied to the Lily of the Valley, but smaller, being about six inches in height. It bears white flowers in May, and should be grown in shady spots under trees.

*Morisia*.—*M. hypogæa* is a pretty little rock-plant, producing clear yellow flowers in the early spring. It is of easy culture, succeeding in porous soil, well drained, in a sunny site. Its dark, tufted foliage shows off the golden flowers to advantage.

*Myosotis*.—Forget-me-not. *M. dissitiflora* is one of the gems of the spring garden. Plants allowed to remain undisturbed after blooming will be surrounded in the autumn with self-sown seedlings which may be removed to places where they are wanted to flower.

*Omphalodes*.—*O. verna*, which bears flowers of an even deeper blue than the Forget-me-not, will grow and bloom even under the shade of evergreens. It should be planted in woods where weeds are few or absent, and will soon make itself at home, its creeping stems spreading rapidly over the ground. There is a white variety less worthy of culture than the type. *O. Luciliae*, though very beautiful, often proves difficult to establish.

*Opuntia*.—Some of the hardier of these do well in dry stony banks, and grow with more vigour if their roots can come across buried hot-bed manure in their descent. Their flowers, which are large and cup-shaped, vary in colour, being yellow, orange, salmon and carmine. Slugs are very fond of the succulent leaves, and must be guarded against.

*Orobis vernus*.—A dwarf-growing plant, producing masses of rosy-purple, pea-like flowers in the spring and continuing its display for some weeks. It will grow in any open spot.

*Oxalis floribunda*.—This may be naturalised in a warm sandy spot. It is low-growing, and bears its rosy flowers for months.

*Phlox*.—Dwarf perennial species of this family are valuable for rocky banks and sunny exposed sites, where they soon form masses of foliage and flower. *P. divaricata*, *P. reptans* and *P. subulata* are species, but there are many named varieties that are even more attractive.

*Primula*.—Some English woods are so thickly spread with Primroses that at a distance of a quarter of a mile the open glades appear carpeted with pale yellow. Not a wood or coppice in Britain but should gleam with the native Primrose in the spring of the year. Seed should be scattered broadcast wherever the Primrose does not grow. Many other exotic species may be grown in different sites in the wild garden, some thriving best in sandy peat or loam in pockets at the foot of rocks, such



as *P. cortusoides*, *P. denticulata*, *P. latifolia*, *P. marginata*, *P. sikkimensis* and *P. villosa*. *P. rosea* and *P. japonica* are lovers of moisture and partial shade.

*Sanguinaria*.—A charming spring-flowering Canadian plant, bearing numbers of white flowers an inch in diameter. It succeeds in loamy soil beneath deciduous trees, and has a very pretty effect if naturalised on a sloping bank at the side of a running stream.

*Saponaria*.—Of these the best is *S. ocymoides*, a pretty trailing plant covered with rosy flowers in the early summer. It thrives in gritty soil among half-buried stones, and covers the face of the rock with its flower-laden growths. There is a white variety of this plant.

*Saxifraga*.—The incrustated Saxifrages, such as the noble *S. pyramidalis* and *S. longifolia*, with their spires of blossom, and other allied species are never more at home than when growing in a narrow rock-crevice, through which their roots may descend into moist and congenial compost. Little gems, such as *S. Boydii*, *S. Boydii alba*, *S. Burseriana* and others do best if grown in a similar site. The Mossy Saxifrages, of which *S. muscoides* is the type, form carpets of bright green studded in the spring with white flowers, and spread soft mats over the inequalities of the rocks. As they enlarge their dimensions rapidly they are invaluable for stony spots. All of the species should be provided with good drainage and a gritty root-run.

*Sedum*.—These vary in size from the lowly *S. glaucum* to *S. spectabile* two feet in height. The dwarf varieties are equally useful with the lesser Saxifrages for covering stony ground or rock ledges, and are of the easiest culture.

*Sempervivum*.—House leek. Some of these can be easily induced to grow on the perpendicular surfaces of rocks by fixing some clay on the inequalities to give their roots a start, and when large clusters are formed

they have an interesting effect. One of the quaintest is the Cobweb Houseleek, *S. arachnoideum*, in which the points of the leaves are covered with crossing strands of down like a spider's web, while a particularly striking species is *S. holochrysum*, with yellow flower-heads fifteen inches in length. This, however, can only be grown in the open in the most favoured spots.

*Silene*.—*S. alpestris* is a pretty little plant with delicate white flowers, borne on stems about four inches high, and is an attractive sight when its low green leafage is plentifully starred with bloom-sprays. *S. Elizabethæ* and *S. virginica* are two handsome species, but of more difficult culture than is *S. alpestris*, which is easily established in porous soil.

*Thymus*.—Thymes are always acceptable from their pleasing aroma when brushed by the hand, and form neat rounded cushions among rocks and on dry sandy banks. The Lemon-scented Thyme and the Golden Thyme are the general favourites, but the Peppermint-scented, *T. corsicus*, should not be forgotten.

*Tiarella*.—Foam Flower. *T. cordifolia* is a delightful little plant throwing up spikes of ivory-white, feathery flowers about a foot in height in the spring. It will grow in the full sunshine, but succeeds also in partial shade, and should be naturalised in leaf-mould and loam in open spaces of woods or by the side of paths where weeds will not overpower it.

*Veronica*.—There are several dwarf species of Speedwell that may be employed for surfacing bare spaces, hanging over low ledges or filling gaps between rocks. Their culture presents no difficulties. Some of the best are *V. Chamædrys*, *V. incana*, *V. pectinata*, *V. prostrata*, *V. repens*, *V. rupestris*, *V. saxatilis*, *V. taurica* and *V. Teucrium*. All have blue flowers, some darker, some lighter.

*Vinca*.—Periwinkle. These will grow in any soil and

any position. They are useful as trailers and should be grown freely in woods. Some woods in the south are full of the Lesser Periwinkle, *V. minor*. There is a double variety of this flower that is charming, and also a white form. *V. acutiloba* is a pretty species with grey-blue flowers blooming in the autumn. The white variety of *V. minor*, planted on high banks, and drooping naturally has a graceful effect.

*Viola*.—The Sweet Violet, *V. odorata*, should be grown in every wood. In some localities the white form alone is to be found wild, but in others the blue is present. In deserted gardens the banks are often covered with Violets sprung from wind-blown seed, and spreading year by year among the weeds. It is a pleasant surprise while walking in a woodland lane for the spring air to be suddenly filled with the scent of violets, and there is no reason why every wood within reach of the house should not provide such precious fragrance, but every reason why it should. Violets should be introduced wherever possible into the wild garden, and, once established, they will take care of themselves.

*Waldsteinia*.—*W. trifolia* is a trailing spring-flowering plant bearing bright yellow flowers as large as those of the garden Strawberry, and having glossy green leaves. It will succeed in any soil and in any position.

## FLOWERING SHRUBS AND TREES

THE beauty of the wild garden may be much enhanced by the judicious planting of flowering shrubs and trees. A selection of these will dower the landscape with loveliness for eight months out of the twelve. Among natives of these Isles we have the Hawthorns of our hedgerows and lanes, snowy drifts towards the end of May, the Wayfaring Tree, *Viburnum Lantana*, and the wild Guelder Rose, *V. opulus*, with its red, translucent fruits; but there are many beautiful exotics perfectly hardy in our climate that should be largely planted. In the case of smaller subjects grouping should be resorted to, but large-growing species form handsome specimens when isolated. The following are all to be recommended.

*Amygdalus*.—Almond. One of the earliest of flowering trees, commencing to blossom in February in mild winters in the south-west. There are several varieties, single and double, and *A. nana* is a dwarf shrub growing about three feet high.

*Amelanchier*.—Snowy Mespilus. *A. canadensis* is a charming sight in April, its countless white flowers set off by the brownish tint of the young foliage. Its autumnal colouring is also very beautiful.

*Aralia spinosa*.—Handsome both in its flowers and foliage. The leaves are sometimes almost three feet in length and deeply cut, and the feathery, ivory-white inflorescence spreads like ostrich-plumes above the foliage. The tree is most ornamental when kept to a single stem ten to twelve feet in height, at which



distance from the ground the great leaves spread like palm-fronds crowned with the white flower-clusters.

*Berberis*.—The common Barberry is an attractive sight when an isolated specimen is loaded with fruit, the branches arching gracefully under their load of vermillion-tinted berries, and its bronze-tinted form is also ornamental. Other species of *Berberis* have, however, prettier flowers than those of *B. vulgaris*, *B. stenophylla* being the handsomest of its race. In the spring it is a mass of golden-orange, each spray blossom-laden to its very tip. *B. Darwinii* is also a striking species with flowers of a slightly deeper orange than the last-named. It attains a height of over twenty feet.

*Casalpina japonica*.—Syn. *C. sepiaria*. A thorny bush with Robinia-like leaves bearing yellow flowers in the summer.

*Camellia*.—Generally met with as a greenhouse plant, but really hardier than the Laurel, instances having occurred where a Laurel growing close to a *Camellia* in the open has been injured by the frost while the latter was unhurt. However great the hardiness of the *Camellia*, it is of but little use as a decorative feature in cold and frosty districts, since its flowers are produced in the winter and early spring when frosts are prevalent, and are hopelessly damaged. In the south of Cornwall climatic conditions are different, and here great *Camellia* bushes flower profusely in the open through the winter and spring months.

*Catalpa*.—*C. bignonioides* is a handsome, large-leaved tree bearing spreading panicles of white flowers. Examples thirty feet in height are to be found in England. It is hardy, being a native of North America.

*Cerasus*.—The wild Cherry tree, often growing to a large size, forms one of the features of the river banks and woods at the time of the year when the Larch-shoots are emerald green, and the Bird Cherry, also a British

tree, a little later gives us the beauty of its upright or drooping flower-sprays. Two of the prettiest foreign species are the double Chinese Cherry, *C. serrulata* and *C. Mahaleb pendula*, a variety with drooping branches which, when in flower, form a snowy cascade. *C. Watereri* with large, flesh-coloured, double flowers is also very beautiful. It may here be remarked that now all the Almonds, Apricots, Peaches, Cherries and Bird Cherries are classed under *Prunus*, instead of being recognised as belonging to the families of *Amygdalus Armenaica*, *Cerasus* and *Padus* as of yore. It is well to remember this as some nurserymen have adopted the new classification while others adhere to the old, so that it is quite possible to buy the same thing under different names from separate firms. In this list the old classification has been followed.

*Cercis Siliquastrum*.—Judas Tree. Little grown in this country, but nevertheless a very handsome tree when laden with its purple-pink flowers.

*Chimonanthus fragrans*.—Winter Sweet. A most valuable flowering shrub bearing its fragrant blossoms in the depth of winter. It is generally trained to a wall, but in the south-west grows well as a bush, as indeed it should in all parts of England, since it is a native of Japan. As a bush it sometimes reaches a height of fifteen feet, and has a pretty effect if planted in front of a great yew or some other dark-foliaged evergreen, as the yellowish-green flowers are then thrown into strong relief, whereas, when the plant is trained to a wall, they are inconspicuous. Their scent is delicious, and a few sprays brought within doors will perfume the house.

*Choisya ternata*.—Mexican Orange Flower. When this was introduced some seventy-five years ago, it was grown in the hot-house, then the green-house was considered warm enough for it, and later a daring cultivator

planted it in the open where it proves practically hardy, having withstood twenty-five degrees of frost undamaged. Its fragrant white flowers are produced in the early summer, and in the southern counties it often perfects a second crop in October, or later if the weather be mild.

*Cistus*.—Rock Rose. Some of the larger-growing of these form handsome shrubs, for, though their flowers are fugitive, they are produced in such quantity that the fallen ones are immediately replaced by others. Among the best are *C. cyprius*, *C. ladaniferus maculatus* and *C. laurifolius*, which grow to a height of five feet or more. *C. ladaniferus maculatus* is difficult to obtain, *C. cyprius* being usually supplied for it. The blossoms, white with a deep claret-red spot at the base of each petal, are very similar, but in *C. cyprius* the flowers are produced in clusters at the end of the sprays, whereas in *C. ladaniferus* they are solitary. The pure white type of *C. ladaniferus* is not in commerce. *C. Florentinus* is a dwarf white-flowered species rarely exceeding two feet in height. The *Cistus* revels in a dry sunny site.

*Cornus Mas*.—Cornelian Cherry. An interesting little tree bearing in February or March small, quaint flowers, like tiny, yellow wheel-spokes on its leafless branches. These are followed by the bright red fruits from which it takes its name.

*Cratægus*.—The scarlet Thorn and its double variety as well as the double white are well-known to all, and are handsome in the landscape. These and others of the shrubs and trees here alluded to should not only be planted immediately around the house, as is so often the case, but amid natural surroundings at a distance.

*Cytisus*.—Broom. These are valuable for their brightness during the spring months. The first to bloom is the pale sulphur *C. praecox*, followed later by the golden *C. scoparius* and its chestnut and yellow variety, *C. Andre-*

*anus*, and by the white *C. albus*. Open sunny spots are the best for the Brooms.

*Deutzia*.—*D. crenata* is a white-flowering bush growing from eight to ten feet in height. There are two double varieties, of which that named *candidissima* is the best, the blossoms of the other form being tinged with red. A large and well-flowered *Deutzia* is a handsome sight at the edge of a wood or shrubbery.

*Escallonia*.—*E. Phillipiana* is a pleasing shrub densely covered with small, white, myrtle-like flowers in July. It is hardy, which none of the other species can be said to be. In the south-west *E. macrantha*, *E. montevidensis* or *floribunda* and *E. illinata* may be planted with confidence, but not so further north.

*Eucryphia pinnatifolia*.—An exceedingly handsome shrub bearing large white flowers about three inches in diameter, with central tufts of stamens, in the month of August. It is hardy, and should be largely grown. It attains a height of eight feet.

*Exochorda grandiflora*.—Pearl Bush. An attractive spring-flowering subject bearing white, cupped flowers about an inch in diameter. Sometimes called *Spirœa grandiflora*. Under favourable conditions it attains a height and diameter of fifteen feet. A native of China and perfectly hardy.

*Erica*.—Heath. Some of the taller species make fine shrubs in warm spots, *E. mediterranea* forming a bush eight feet in height and fifteen feet in diameter, while the white-flowered *E. codonodes* reaches an even greater stature, but is not of such spreading habit. It reproduces itself freely from self-sown seedlings in favoured sites. *E. arborea* is another good, large-growing Heath, sometimes attaining a height of twenty feet. A porous, gritty soil, and a position on a sunny bank suits these species.

*Forsythia*. — Well-known, yellow-flowered shrubs



blossoming at the end of March and beginning of April, when they form masses of gold visible from a long distance. *F. suspensa*, the shoots of which are pendulous, is generally trained to a wall, but its effect is far prettier if it is planted in an elevated position and allowed to droop gracefully over a high, perpendicular bank or cliff-edge. *F. viridissima* forms a shrub of erect growth, and *F. intermedia*, said to be a cross between the two named, has arching shoots.

*Garrya elliptica*.—Although a native of California this decorative shrub is hardy as far north as Scotland. Its season of beauty is the winter, when it is covered with pale green catkins, which are shown up well against the dark foliage. Some of these catkins are a foot in length, and a large shrub will bear many hundreds. The *Garrya* grows to a height of fifteen feet, and to a like diameter.

*Genista hispanica*.—A compact, little, spreading shrub rarely exceeding two feet in height. It has spiny shoots, and is a mass of yellow flowers in May.

*Halesia tetraptera*.—Snowdrop Tree. A native of North America and very beautiful, bearing white snow-drop-like flowers hanging from its branches. It does well by the waterside, and grows to a height of twenty feet or more. Like all white-flowered trees it requires a dark background to be seen to the best advantage.

*Hamamelis arborea*.—An interesting little tree from Japan, bearing quantities of bright yellow flowers on its leafless branches in January. The flowers are very curious, the petals resembling narrow strips of twisted gold leaf. Like the *Chimonanthus*, it is most striking when seen against a Yew background.

*Hydrangea*.—*H. Hortensia*, though a tub-plant over the greater part of Britain, should be largely planted out in the warmer districts. It does well in open woods and beneath deciduous trees, its flowers being sometimes of a delightful clear blue tint and remaining in beauty for

many weeks. Individual plants are often six feet in height and considerably more in diameter.

*Kerria japonica*.—Jew's Mallow. The double form of this shrub is well known, and may often be seen trained against cottage walls, where it flowers well into the winter. The type, which is single, is but rarely seen, and lacks the vigour of the double variety, but is a charming shrub.

*Kœlreuteria paniculata*.—A small, hardy tree, a native of China, bearing panicles of yellow flowers in the summer. It has elegant, divided foliage, and its autumnal tints are of surpassing brilliance.

*Laburnum*.—No tree grown in this country, or in any other, can surpass the Laburnum for beauty when in the zenith of its display. Its golden shower lights up the landscape like a sunbeam, and gleams afar through the scarce-expanded foliage of Oak and Beech. Laburnums should be planted by pathways—though not necessarily confined to such positions—so that walkers may pass beneath their golden canopy.

*Lavandula*.—Lavender. This fragrant-flowered shrub, with its delicious perfume, should be planted in warm, sunny spots, where it will form a big bush. When not in flower its grey foliage is pleasing.

*Lonicera fragrantissima*.—A February-blooming bush-honeysuckle, bearing white, sweetly-perfumed flowers. Though hardy, a sheltered nook is advisable, in order to guard against injury to the flowers from biting winds and frost. *L. Standishi* is very similar.

*Magnolia*.—Many members of this family are amongst the loveliest of flowering trees. *M. grandiflora* is the best known, being an evergreen, generally trained on a house-front. In the south of England, however, it is often grown as a standard, reaching a height of twenty-five feet, with a greater diameter. Its large white chalice are very beautiful and deliciously fragrant. *M. con-*

*spicua* produces its pure white flowers on leafless branches early in April, and looks like a suspended snowdrift when seen against a dark background. *M. obovata* is of dwarf stature and bears purplish flowers. *M. Soulangeana*, with pink-flushed blossoms, is a hybrid between the preceding two, and *M. Lennei*, with flowers of a rather deeper hue than the last-named, is another descendant of *M. conspicua*. All of these are deciduous as is the pretty little *M. stellata*, which bears small, starry, white flowers, and the handsome *M. Watsoni*, with pure white, cup-shaped blossoms, six inches in diameter. *M. macrophylla* is also deciduous, and bears very large white flowers about a foot in diameter, and *M. Fraseri* is a deciduous tree, producing pale yellow flowers. All the foregoing are practically hardy.

*Nuttallia cerasiformis*.—A pretty, hardy, deciduous shrub, bearing racemes of small white flowers in early spring before the leaves expand.

*Olearia Haastii*.—A hardy shrub, entirely covered with small, white, daisy-like flowers in August. *O. Gunnii* and *O. stellulata* are very beautiful, but not sufficiently hardy for cold districts.

*Pavia macrostachya*.—Buckeye. *Syn. Æsculus parviflora*. A handsome shrub of the Chestnut family, rarely exceeding ten feet in height. Its young leaves are of a pretty reddish tint, and in July or August it perfects its dense, erect spikes of white flowers. It throws up numerous suckers, and if planted in an open space soon makes a symmetrical bush.

*Philadelphus*.—Syringa. *P. speciosus* is the most ornamental of this family, bearing large, pure white flowers two inches in diameter, and growing to a height of twelve feet or more. Its flowers are not so heavily scented as some species. It is also known as *grandiflorus*.

*Phlomis*.—Jerusalem Sage. The South European *P. fruticosa*, with greyish leaves and yellow flowers, has

become naturalised on rough, rocky ground in some localities in the south of England, where it grows into a large shrub. Though not strikingly handsome it has its attractive points.

*Prunus*.—The Plum tribe furnishes us with many beautiful spring-flowering trees. *P. Davidiana* is the earliest to bloom, often commencing to flower in January. Of this there are two varieties, one with white blossoms and the other with pink. The former is the freest flowerer. *P. Pissardii*, a handsome, bronze-leaved species, produces its white flowers in March. Before the blossoms have withered the leaves begin to expand, and being in their youth amber-brown in colour make a happy complement to the white flowers. *P. triloba flore pleno* is another lovely little tree with double rose-coloured blossoms.

*Pyrus*.—The well-known *P. japonica* may be seen in the early spring, brightening many a white-washed cottage wall with its scarlet flowers. It succeeds equally well as a bush. *P. Maulei* bears orange-red flowers, followed by golden-yellow fruit. *P. malus floribunda* is a charming sight when in flower, the buds being crimson and the expanded flowers flesh-pink.

*Rhodotypos kerrioides*.—Sometimes called the white Kerria. A pretty shrub, with single white flowers produced in July. It grows to a height of ten feet.

*Rhus cotinus*.—Venetian Sumach. A most ornamental shrub, producing masses of purplish-crimson, feathery inflorescence in the late summer. Its autumnal tints are also very bright, though not equalling those of *R. cotinoides* and *R. typhina*. It should have an isolated position, where it will attain a height of fourteen feet or more.

*Ribes*.—Flowering Currant. *R. sanguineum* and its white variety are common spring-flowering shrubs. The yellow *R. aureum* is less known, but is pleasing when in blossom, but *R. speciosum* is the handsomest of its race, producing deep crimson, fuchsia-like flowers



drooping from its arching shoots. Being a native of California it can scarcely be accounted hardy, but thrives in the southern counties.

*Robinia*.—False Acacia. These are handsome flowering trees, growing sixty feet and more in height. *R. hispida*, the Rose Acacia bears racemes of large deep-pink flowers. This is a small tree with very brittle branches, and should therefore be planted in a sheltered site.

*Romneya Coulteri*.—Californian Bush Poppy. An exceedingly handsome plant, bearing lovely, single, white flowers, six inches across, with a central boss of golden stamens, delicately scented. It is often looked upon as a tender plant of difficult culture, but it has been grown in the open in Scotland, and in a certain southern garden it has taken possession of a bed where a group of shrubs is growing, and has sent its suckers up in all directions, so that it may well be experimented with in the wild garden, especially in the warmer districts.

*Rosmarinus*.—Rosemary. A fit companion for the fragrant Lavender, enjoying the same conditions.

*Rubus*.—Bramble. Chief amongst these is the beautiful *R. deliciosus* with its large, single, white blossoms, borne in profusion in the early summer. Other attractive species are *R. spectabilis* with red flowers, *R. nutkanus* with white flowers, and the Japanese Wineberry, *R. phænicolasius*, whose shoots, thickly covered with crimson hairs and bright red fruit, are more ornamental than the flowers. The foliage of the cut-leaved Bramble, *R. laciniatus*, renders it a decorative bush.

*Rosa*.—For flowering shrubs there are the numerous Penzance briars and the Japanese *R. rugosa*, both bright with scarlet hews in the autumn, and some of the wild roses may be introduced, such as *R. acicularis*, *R. lucida*,

*R. macrantha*, *R. rubrifolia*, and the Burnet Rose, *R. spinosissima*, which latter is a native.

*Spiræa*.—The bush Meadow-Sweets, with their graceful contour and feathery plumes, sometimes composed of small hawthorn-like flowers, are indispensable in the wild garden. Being of varied height they are useful for diverse positions. Though they will grow in dry ground they never assume their noblest proportions except in moist and deep soil. There are numerous species, the following being some of the best: *S. arguta* is a new hybrid growing to a height of five feet, and bearing, in April, clusters of small, snow-white flowers on its slender, graceful shoots. It is the best of the early-flowering *Spiræas*. *S. canadensis*, also known as *S. flagelliformis* and *S. hypericifolius* as well as by many other names, is a summer-flowering species growing as a bush to a height of eight feet, and bearing dense clusters of ivory-white blossoms on arching shoots. It is a handsome shrub. *S. discolor*, more commonly catalogued as *S. ariaefolia*, is a very lovely species, growing to a height of twelve feet, and bearing at the ends of its slender branchlets numberless drooping, downy plumes, yellowish-white in colour. It is a native of North America, and worthy of a place in every garden. *S. japonica* is a confusing title, as it is generally applied by nurserymen to the herbaceous pot *Spiræa* so commonly forced in the early spring, the proper name of which is *Astilbe japonica*. The type grows to a height of five feet, and bears flat clusters of rosy flowers. *S. Bumalda* is a variety from which has been raised *S. Bumalda Anthony Waterer*, the best coloured of all the forms of this species, the tint of its flower-heads being a rich carmine-crimson. *S. Bumalda* and the last-named variety often show partial variegation in their foliage. *S. Lindleyana*, from the Himalayas, is the largest of the *Spiræas*, attaining a height of fifteen

feet. In July it perfects its great spreading bloom-panicles, often over a foot in length and of an ivory-white hue. Its foliage is very ornamental, being large and deeply-cut, and when in full flower it presents a beautiful picture. *S. media*, better known as *S. confusa*, forms a dense bush, eight feet or more in height, which in the month of May is white with clusters of snowy flowers. It thrives best if planted in a partially-shaded site.

*Staphylea colchica*.—An attractive shrub bearing drooping clusters of white flowers in the summer. A native of the Caucasus. It grows to a height of ten feet. *S. trifolia* is much inferior to the foregoing.

*Syringa*.—Lilac. One of the most delightful of our spring-blooming shrubs, scenting the May air with its delicate perfume. The common Lilac is the kind most generally met with, and is as sweet as any, although its flower-clusters are smaller than those of some of the later introductions, amongst the best of which are *Marie Legrange*, single white, *Madame Lemoine*, double white, and *Souvenir de Louis Spath*, deep purple-rose. The Persian Lilac has smaller leaves and flower-clusters than the common Lilac, but is a pretty bush and a very free bloomer. It is a hybrid between *S. vulgaris* and the cut-leaved Lilac, *S. laciniata*.

*Viburnum plicatum*.—Japanese Guelder Rose. A graceful shrub having its shoots thickly set throughout their length with large, snow-white flower-trusses. *V. macrocephalum*, with larger but fewer trusses, is less hardy. The common Guelder Rose of gardens is *V. opulus sterilis*.

*Weigela*.—*Syn. Diervilla*. Pretty, summer-flowering shrubs. Those most commonly met with have rose-coloured flowers, but many good varieties have been raised of late years, of which some of the best are *nivea*, white, *Eva Rathke*, maroon, and *Abel Carriere*, carmine.

*Xanthoceras sorbifolia*.—A beautiful shrub, bearing in the late spring clusters of white flowers an inch in diameter, with a carmine spot at the base of the petals. It is a native of China and hardy. Its foliage is, however, sometimes damaged by the spring frosts. It grows to a height of fourteen feet.

In this list only the names of practically hardy subjects have been given, numbers of charming flowering shrubs and trees that can be successfully naturalised in Cornwall and South Devon, but are too tender for more northern districts, having been intentionally omitted.



## PEAT-LOVING SHRUBS

*RHODODENDRONS*.—Of peat-loving shrubs these take the foremost place, being met with in this country in far greater numbers than any others having a liking for a similar soil. *R. ponticum*, introduced over one hundred years ago, has been largely planted, and is by far the commonest kind, but in beauty does not compare with many of the species and hybrids that have since come into notice. About eighty years ago seeds of the fine *R. arboreum* were imported, a species that attains a height of forty feet on the Himalayas. The type bears pink flowers, and there is also a beautiful white form. In the south-west these will grow to a height of twenty-five feet. The hybridising of Rhododendrons has been diligently carried on for many years, and a large number of beautiful varieties have resulted from the crosses. Rhododendrons, as a race, have an extended season of bloom, commencing with *R. Nobleanum venustum*, which begins its display in October in southern Cornwall, and ending with the June-flowering *R. Nuttallii* and *R. Dalhousiae*. Some of the finest species are *R. Falconeri* with enormous leaves, perfecting its white flowers in May—a specimen in Cornwall is twenty-two feet in height. *R. Aucklandii*, now styled *Griffithianum*, bearing large pure white flowers five inches in diameter, *R. barbatum* and *R. Thompsoni* with deep red blooms, *R. campylocarpum* with pale-yellow, *R. fulgens*, bright red, *R. campanulatum*, pale pink, and *R. ciliatum*, flesh-white, dwarf. Many of the Rhododendrons are too tender for out-door culture except in the warmest localities of England and Ireland,

but some of the best may be grown in the open as far north as Scotland, among these being *arboreum*, *barbatum*, *ciliatum*, *campylocarpum*, *fulgens*, *Falconeri* and *Thompsoni*. An ideal spot for Rhododendrons is a dell surrounded by trees which may afford them complete shelter without shading them. Although partial to a peaty soil they will thrive almost equally well in loam and leaf-mould, but lime is fatal to their well-being. Where they are likely to succeed, Rhododendrons of the better kinds should be largely planted in open woods. Many woods are full of *R. ponticum*. Where this flourishes it should be rooted out by degrees and the better species and hybrids substituted. In a certain wood in the south-west, good Rhododendrons have been largely planted, some being now nearly thirty feet in height. These are being added to year by year. On a sunny spring day the picture presented by these noble bushes in full flower is enchanting.

*Azalea*.—The Ghent Azaleas, which are of hybrid origin, with their exquisitely-blending tones ranging from brilliant orange-scarlet through orange, chrome and pale-sulphur to creamy-white, afford materials for many an harmonious colour-scheme on our hills, open valley-slopes, and along the verges of woods and shrubberies. The old *Azalea pontica*, with small yellow flowers, grows to a large size, a single plant developing into a specimen ten feet in height and twenty-five yards in circumference, giving a charming effect when seen against an evergreen background. *A. indica*, the popular greenhouse plant, is hardy in the south-west, where it forms large bushes in the open, and even in Sussex grows well and flowers freely in woods.

*Andromeda*.—*Syns. Pieris and Zenobia. A. floribunda* is a dwarf evergreen shrub covered with white flower-racemes in the spring. *A. formosa* is of greater stature, reaching a height of twenty feet under favourable con-

ditions. A large specimen in full flower is a beautiful sight early in June. It is not perfectly hardy, but succeeds in the southern counties. Its blossoms are white. *A. japonica* is a somewhat dwarf shrub bearing long pendulous clusters of white flowers, and is very ornamental. *A. speciosa*, sometimes styled *A. cassinaefolia*, is a very handsome dwarf shrub bearing drooping, lily-of-the-valley-like flowers of the purest white. The variety known as *pulverulenta* has larger flowers than the type.

*Daphne Cneorum*.—A charming little prostrate shrub bearing at the end of its shoots clusters of clear pink, fragrant flowers. It should be planted where it will not be overrun by herbage, or incommoded by more vigorous neighbours.

*Gaultheria*.—*G. procumbens* is a creeping shrub doing well in a shady spot, and bears small bell-shaped white flowers which are followed in the winter by red berries. *G. Shallon* is a far more vigorous grower. Its flowers are white, slightly tinged with red. These give place to round purplish berries. Both species are natives of North America and are therefore perfectly hardy.

*Kalmia*.—*K. latifolia* is the finest of these, growing to a height of ten feet. Its flowers are very lovely, being cup-shaped and varying in colour from pink to white. They are over half an inch in diameter, and are borne in large clusters at the end of the branchlets, some of the clusters being composed of between thirty and forty flowers. It blooms in summer after the Rhododendrons have concluded their display, and is therefore valuable for association with these.

*Ledum latifolium*.—A low-growing evergreen, about three feet in height, bearing clusters of white flowers in May. A native of North America. There is a variety of this species, to which the distinctive title of *globosum* has been given, that is an improvement on the type.

*Pernettya*.—*Syn. Canarina*. *P. mucronata* is the most

ornamental of this family and grows to a height of three feet. It bears white flowers, followed by purplish-red berries. Some fifty years ago *Pernettyas* were taken in hand by an Irish nurseryman, and by crossing *P. mucronata* with *P. angustifolia* he laid the foundation of a remarkably decorative strain of hybrids. Now plants may be obtained bearing berries of many colours, ranging from white to crimson through pale pink, rose and scarlet. The hybrids fruit so abundantly that their branches are arched with the weight of the berries, which vary in size in different forms. These new *Pernettyas* should be planted freely as they create a most attractive autumnal effect.

*Vaccinium*.—Of this race, to which our common Whortleberry belongs, the North American *V. corymbosum* is one of the best. It attains a height of from six to ten feet, and bears a profusion of pinkish-white flowers, followed later by purple-black fruit, with a grape-like bloom. Other interesting species are *V. canadense*, *V. nitidum*, *V. ovatum*, with reddish berries, and *V. pennsylvanicum*. Some have pretty autumnal tints.



## CLIMBERS

THE graceful abandon of climbing and trailing plants adds much to the informal beauty of the rural landscape. Nature's unstudied effects, ever-satisfying in their charm, are replete with suggestions for the rightful use of hardy plants in the wild garden, with hints of attractive associations, felicitous contrasts, and refined colour-schemes. Nature flings her climbers over ruined tree and rocky steep, and threads her trailers through the tangled hedge with a careless hand, but with an unerring eye for future effect. Here, in the autumnal days, the scarlet berries of the Holly glow amid the billowy, smoke-grey down of the seeding Traveller's Joy that has wreathed the tree in its coiling growths; here, dark and glossy, the Ivy-veil hangs like suspended cataract over the sheer cliff-face; here the vivid bryony-trail gleams vermilion among the bronzing brambles. In the summer, the dog rose that has climbed the old hawthorn on the orchard bank drapes its spreading head with arching shoots blossom-laden to their very tips, scattering the shell-pink petals on the emerald grass beneath. The honeysuckle hangs flower-festoons from the straggling blackthorn hedge, wafting its perfume down the winding lane and out into the open high road beyond, where in the steep banks the lavender scabious blooms in the midst of the delicate tracery of the ivory-white bedstraw's drooping masses, while above, from the highest spray of the hedgerow, the nightshade hangs its purple, golden-centred blossoms. Native climbers should certainly be present in the wild garden, but with the denizens of the

temperate globe at our disposal there is every reason why these should be called to our aid to supplement the attractions of our compatriots. Many opportunities will offer themselves for the artistic employment of climbers amid natural surroundings, in the clothing dead trees that would otherwise be unsightly, with a mantle of beauty, in allowing their growths to mingle with living foliage or in hiding bare expanses of cliff. It is advisable here to repeat the advice already given as regards planting, namely, that a rich and deep root-run be provided, as if this is done the climbers will at once start into vigorous growth, whereas if it be neglected it will mean the loss of some seasons. A list of suitable climbers and trailers is here appended.

*Aristolochia*.—*A. Sipho*, the Dutchman's Pipe, so-called from the shape of the flowers, which are held on long, curving stems, is a striking climber, chiefly valuable for its foliage, which is very large and heart-shaped. It is a native of North America, and a strong grower, readily ascending to a height of twenty feet. It may be planted to climb evergreen and other trees. *A. tomentosa* is a smaller species.

*Atragene alpina*.—Alpine Clematis. A charming little climber, bearing flowers about two inches across, with pale-blue petals and white cups. The petals being narrow and inclining inwards towards the corolla, and the flowers being set on slender, arching stems, the plant when in bloom has a very graceful appearance. There is also a pure white form. It does well in an open spot, and is attractive if allowed to clamber over a many-branched stump, which in a few seasons it will cover with its rambling shoots.

*Boussingaultia*.—*B. baselloides* is a luxuriant climber, forming shoots fifteen feet or more in length during the season. It has large pale-green leaves and small, white inconspicuous flowers, slightly fragrant, which are borne

in the autumn. It dies down in the winter, and is far inferior to *Aristolochia Sipho* as an ornamental climber.

*Calystegia*.—The great white Bindweed is a remarkably handsome plant when covered with its wide-spread, snowy blossoms, and is far better suited to the wild garden than to those portions where order perforce reigns. It is well adapted for growing through and over comparatively dwarf bushes, which it veils in a sheet of white in the late summer. Its wandering roots spread rapidly in the surrounding soil, sending up growths as they go, but this is an advantage rather than a demerit in the wild garden.

*Clematis*.—Without doubt the most important race of flowering climbers, many species of which are invaluable for naturalising. The earliest to flower is *C. balearica* or *calycina*, which, in the south-west, commences to bloom in early February, bearing its greenish-white, purple-spotted flowers, about two inches in diameter, in profusion. Later on the blossoms are followed by feathery seed-vessels. It is a vigorous grower, and in warm spots rambles among tree-branches to a height of twenty feet. *C. cirrhosa* is very similar to the last-named, but its flowers, which are of like size, are destitute of spots. *C. montana* is the most decorative of the race, and is an excellent subject for garlanding dead trees or growing through the branches of living trees, both evergreen and deciduous. It makes prodigious growth when once established, reaching the tops of trees thirty and forty feet high in three seasons. It is charming when clambering over an old Yew, its white, starry flower-trails contrasting delightfully with the sombre foliage of the tree. It is at its best in early June. *C. graveolens* is a yellow-flowered species, blossoming in August. It is a strong grower, and therefore a good tree climber. In the autumn its downy awns have a pretty effect. *C. flammula*, the

Virgin's Bower, is an old cottage favourite, bearing its small, star-shaped, sweetly-scented flowers in September. Though not so rampant a grower as *C. montana*, it does well for rambling over small trees such as Hawthorns and the like, and is very decorative if planted at the top of a low cliff some fifteen to twenty feet in height, and allowed to fall naturally over the perpendicular face. *C. paniculata* is very similar in appearance to *C. flammula*, but flowers slightly later. The white blossoms have a hawthorn-like scent. It is a rather stronger grower than the Virgin's Bower, but is useful for the same positions recommended for that species. It should be planted in a sunny site. *C. Vitalba*, the Traveller's Joy or Old Man's Beard, the common clematis of our hedgerows and woods, yields to none in its graceful comeliness. In the summer it is crowded with its clustering, almond-scented flowers, and in the autumn and winter the feathery seed vessels hang like grey plumes over the dark evergreens. It will ascend to the top of a tree seventy feet in height, when its looped stems, hanging loose from the trunk and branches have the appearance of tropic lianas.

*Ercilla spicata*.—*Syn. Bridgesia*. An evergreen climber bearing clusters of small purple flowers. Though by no means a striking plant it has the advantage of being a self-clinger, and thus adheres to stone surfaces without the necessity of training. For this reason it is useful for planting against walls of living rock which it will clothe without any further trouble on the part of the planter.

*Humulus*.—Hop. A graceful climbing plant, grown commercially in many parts of England and often occurring in the hedgerows and borders of woods. Its growths will roam over bushes and small trees, and when its flower-bearing season commences, it presents an attractive sight. There are many varieties, a variegated form being one of the prettiest and most popular.



*Jasminum*.—The well-known Jasmine or Jessamine of the cottagers, a hardy climber valuable for its white, deliciously-scented flowers. It will often ascend to a height of twenty feet or thirty feet, but does not as a rule prove as satisfactory if grown against a thick-foliaged evergreen tree as does a vigorous Clematis. Where it is thought desirable for it to climb a tree one with a thin habit of growth, such as Robinia, should be selected. It is, however, more at home creeping through and over a thicket or hedge. The yellow winter-flowering *J. nudiflorum* is excellent for rambling over banks and rocks.

*Lathyrus*.—*L. latifolius*, Syn. *L. sylvestris platyphyllus*, the Everlasting Pea, is a fine trailing plant, excellent for rambling over old tree-stumps, dwarf shrubs, low bushes or steep banks. The type is rose-coloured, but there is a beautiful pure-white variety much its superior. In the summer when in full flower it mantles its support with an unbroken sheet of white. Though not particular as to soil or site, an open position and fairly good soil will increase its effectiveness.

*Lonicera*.—Honeysuckle. The wild species, *L. Periclymenum*, is to be met with on all sides in our woods and lanes, creating enchanting pictures. Here, for fifty yards, the tall hedge seems to be composed entirely of Honeysuckle, here it has surrounded the towering trunk of a Scotch Fir with a flower-spangled column fully forty feet high, here its blossom-laden trails hang from the outstretched arm of a withered oak swaying idly in the breeze. Though forming an admirable tree-climber there are other uses to which the Honeysuckle may be put. It offers a pretty sight when planted on a steep slope and allowed to rove over the ground at will, when falling in masses of flower over a rocky declivity or when garlanding the upturned roots of some monarch of the woods laid low by the

gale, whose mighty trunk has been removed to the saw-pit. There are other exotic species that may well be added to our native Honeysuckle, such as *L. Caprifolium*, *L. flexuosa*, *L. japonica* and *L. sempervirens*.

*Menispermum*.—*M. canadense* is a hardy, deciduous climber bearing small, yellow flowers, and having large somewhat vine-shaped leaves. It will succeed equally well in the shade or in full sunshine.

*Muhlenbeckia*.—*M. complexa*, although a native of New Zealand, is fairly hardy. A plant growing by the side of a garden waterfall was a solid sheet of ice for many weeks during the severe frost of the early part of 1895, yet broke again well when warmer weather returned. In the southern counties it often climbs to a height of fifteen feet, threading its wiry shoots through the densest shrubs and hedges, and forming a mass of entangled growth which, with the tiny green leaves set on the slender black stems, looks, at first sight, not unlike a thicket of Maidenhair.

*Periploca græca*.—A hardy deciduous twiner, bearing small brownish flowers. It may be planted for variety, but has no special beauty to commend it.

*Polygonum baldschuanicum*.—A climbing Knotweed from Bokhara, introduced a few years back. It is a most attractive plant, bearing large pendent clusters of small lavender flowers in great profusion. It is admirably fitted for clambering over small evergreen trees, such as members of the Pine family, which it will garland with its softy-tinted blossoms for many weeks. It is a vigorous grower, perfectly hardy, and will succeed in any soil, but flowers best in full sunlight. It is deciduous.

*Passiflora*.—The blue Passion Flower is an old favourite, introduced from Brazil over 200 years ago. It is far hardier than would be imagined from the land of its origin, and is rarely injured by our winters. It is a very rapid grower, and will readily ascend trees if it

once gets hold of the lower branches. It is also useful for hanging over the face of a cliff. In a hot and sunny position it is particularly effective in the late autumn and early winter when bearing a profusion of its bright orange, egg-shaped fruits. There is a good white variety named *Constance Elliot*.

*Rosa*.—We are taught by the hedgerow brier how well suited is the Rose family for threading shoots upwards through overtopping shrubs and trees, and eventually crowning them with a coronal of fair flowers. Indeed, if the planting of the wild garden was confined to the Rose alone, it might well afford a vision of perfect summer loveliness. The many rambling Roses, when once established, will clamber to the top of a twenty-foot tree and wreath its branches with drooping flower-festoons. Besides the fair wild Roses, such as *R. alpina*, *R. arvensis*, *R. Brunonii*, *R. moschata*, *R. rubrifolia* and others, there are many beautiful named climbing varieties. The *R. polyantha* section gives us the tiny, single, white *polyantha simplex*, the type, and the larger *polyantha grandiflora*, the nankeen *Claire Jacquier*, the pale yellow *Aglai*a, the pink *Leuchstern*, the red *Crimson Rambler*, the flesh-pink *Psyche*, the white *Thalia*, and the pink *Euphrosyne*. In the *sempervirens* group are the pink *Flora*, the white *Felicité Perpetue*, and the pale pink *Myrianthes Renoncule*. The *Ayrshires* provide the white *Bennet's Seedling* and the flesh-coloured *Dundee Rambler*. *Hybrid Musks* include the buff *Garland Rose* and the white *Madame D'Arblay*. In *Hybrid Teas* we have the fine, light-crimson *Reine Olga de Wurtemberg*. The crimson *Carmine Pillar* and the lighter *Longworth Rambler* are *Hybrids*, while of pure *Teas* the cream-white *Madame Alfred Carriere*, the salmon *Madame Berard*, and the pale crimson *Waltham Climber* are all vigorous growers, as are the *Noisettes*, *Rêve d'Or*, orange-yellow, *Aimée Vibert*,

white, and *W. A. Richardson*, apricot, a collection varied enough to fill the heads of fifty Hawthorns with Roses.

*Smilax*.—*S. aspera* is a hardy trailer and not in any way related to the plant usually known by that name, so much in request for table decoration, which is not a *Smilax* at all. Its stems are prickly, and its dark-green leaves, of great substance, are narrow and sometimes spotted with white. It will reach a height of ten feet, and may be employed in covering a tree-stump or old root in a sunny position. It has small, white, fragrant flowers.

*Tropæolum*.—*T. speciosum*, the Flame Nasturtium, is the tallest grower of this race, mounting to a height of twenty feet. It is best planted in a position where it is shaded for a few feet of its growth, except in the north of England and Scotland, where it grows like a weed. It is an excellent subject for planting beneath evergreens, its slender shoots creeping up the branches and emerging over and along them into the sunlight where the flowers are produced. Gorgeous pictures are created when the dark foliage of Yew or *Rhododendron* blazes with the overlying vermilion of this brilliant *Tropæolum*. It should be planted in a porous compost of leaf-mould or peat and sand. *T. tuberosum* has handsome orange and scarlet flowers carried clear of the foliage on long stalks. It climbs to a height of ten or twelve feet, and should be planted in a sunny spot. There are early and late flowering forms, the first blooming in July and August, and the last in mid-October. Only the early flowering variety is valuable. *T. pentaphyllum* grows to a height of about six feet, and bears long, Indian-red flowers. *T. polyphyllum* produces bright yellow flowers, and is best used as a ground trailer over rocks or on a steep bank. Its growths rarely exceed three feet in length.



*Vitis*.—Vine. The Vines give us our most ornamental-foliaged climbers, the leaves of many of them assuming beautiful colours in the autumn. The Virginian Creepers, formerly classed as *Ampelopsis*, are now included in the genus *Vitis*. The Common Virginian Creeper, *Vitis quinquefolia*, with its large, fingered leaves and elegant growth, is always a graceful object, but in the autumn it becomes superb in its crimson colouring. Being a very vigorous grower it should be planted so that it may be enabled to ascend trees. It will soon make itself at home in the branches of large specimens of the *Cupressus* tribe and clothe them in radiant hues. *V. inconstans*, formerly *Ampelopsis Veitchii*, is of very different habit, since it clings naturally to wall or rock, thus being unsuited for tree-climbing. It should be planted at the base of cliffs, when it will find its way over its face unaided. Its autumnal tints rival, if they do not excel, those of *V. quinquefolia*. Its appearance is far more attractive on a perpendicular mass of rock than on a house-wall, owing to the inequalities of the former's surface. Another Virginian Creeper is *V. muralis*. This also has a clinging habit. In the true Vines we have much diversity in the shape and colouring of the foliage. Most are noble climbers that will soon mount to the top of a high tree. Perhaps the most ornamental species is *V. Coignetia*, which has very large leaves that in the autumn turn a resplendent crimson—almost scarlet when seen against the sun. The foliage of *V. californica*, *V. æstivalis* and *V. Thunbergi* becomes red in the autumn in favourable seasons, and a variety of the common Vine, *V. vinifera* *Teinturier*, changes to claret-colour. Some other Vines turn bright yellow as they fade. *V. riparia* is noteworthy because of the mignonette-like perfume of its flowers, and the small fruit of *V. heterophylla humulifolia* makes it worthy of culture since it assumes a turquoise-

blue colour. Another very attractive Vine, with elegantly-cut foliage, is *V. vinifera laciniosa* and *V. serianæ-folia* has deeply-divided leaves.

*Wistaria*.—This is one of the loveliest of all hardy climbers, its long, drooping clusters of fragrant lavender flowers making a beautiful picture in the spring of the year. For training on houses, walls and pergolas it is in much request, but it is all too rarely used on trees where its effect is charming. One disadvantage to the *Wistaria* as a tree-climber is that it often makes but little growth in its earlier stages, a fact which is apt to entail a certain amount of solicitude until it has started away strongly. It is better to grow it in a pot primarily, shifting on as required, and to plant out in a well-prepared spot when the example is fairly large. There is a pretty white variety of the common *W. sinensis*, and also a double form that is worthless. *W. multijuga*, such a favourite climber in Japan, is a strikingly handsome plant, having very long flower-racemes, sometimes three feet or more in length.

## WATER PLANTS

WATER in any form greatly increases the attractions of the wild garden, whether it be a noble lake, a modest pool, a stream, or only a little rivulet trickling through boggy ground, and demands a class of vegetation, for floating on its surface, standing in its shallows, and spreading over its damp verges, totally distinct from that which thrives in dry ground. Of this there is happily no lack, but discretion should be used in making a selection, for there is no greater error than overburdening a pond and its surroundings with a too varied collection of species and forms. This advice has already been given with regard to the wild garden in general, but it applies with particular force to ponds, especially if they be small. In a botanical garden there is a reason for growing every sort of water-plant amenable to open-air culture in our climate for the information of those visiting it in search of practical illustration, but if we study Nature, as we should do in the wild garden, we shall find that in the arrangement of her water-gardens, above all if they are of small extent, she is content to limit her materials. One often sees little ponds and circular, artificial basins, in which several varieties of hardy Water Lilies are growing that crowd each other and hide the water. Needless to say, the basin, never artistic except in formal courts, is entirely out of place in the wild garden. When the added beauty of water is vouchsafed to the pleasure grounds it is of the first importance that it should remain a clear mirror, reflecting the varied forms of trees, the



WATERSIDE VEGETATION





blue sky and fleecy, drifting clouds, that the little breezes should ruffle its face, gauzy-winged dragon-flies double their images in the still surface, and swallow's wing ever and anon stir it into widening rings, but if water vegetation is allowed to spread and cover the pond these felicitous incidents can no more be witnessed. It must not be imagined that the foregoing words have been written with any wish to discourage the planting of Water Lilies, which are among the loveliest of our hardy flowers, but which, like other good things, are capable of being overdone. Sheets of water of sufficient size may well contain all the known varieties, but small pools are better with but one or two of the best. In planting the surroundings of a lake or pond crowding should be strictly guarded against. A sheet of water with bare banks, on which not a tree, shrub, or herbaceous plant grows, loses much of its possible loveliness, but one entirely surrounded by high vegetation is in worse case, since, near at hand, the water is hidden from sight. Open spaces should be allowed, with, here and there, groups of water-loving plants disposed naturally about the margin. The spot from which the full extent of the sheet can be most easily viewed should remain unplanted. Running water is especially charming, and is met with under varying conditions. The placid river between flat banks, gliding gently along its course without a murmur may be benefited by trees, fronted by tall-growing, moisture-loving subjects, being planted at intervals along its course, but does not afford such scope as a more rapidly-running stream, with banks of varied height, for being the central object of an attractive wild garden. Some streams lend themselves naturally, from the conformation of the land through which they flow, to the establishment of all manner of hardy plants in their immediate vicinity. The course of such an ideal stream will run through a deep glen on whose steep sides

flowering shrubs, trees, and trailers may be grouped, here skirting a many-ledged, rocky slope, offering innumerable sites for masses of dwarf plants that delight in the sunlight, and anon plunging abruptly to a lower level in a waterfall, ever a stream's loveliest feature, below which it widens into a pool, half in sunshine and half in shade, where, in the still and shallow water, formed by the eddying current at the verge, Water Lilies may float and flower, while in the moist soil stretching away from the pool noble foliage plants may luxuriate and tall Meadowsweets poise in the air their drooping plumes. Passing onward with a slower flow the stream broadens and divides, forming a low islet, on which the larger Snowflakes droop their white bells, and reflecting the bright yellow of the Marsh Marigolds that fringe a damp meadow where the double Cuckoo Flowers bloom and where later the Snake's-head Fritillaries will hang their white and chequered blossoms. But the possibilities of the ideal stream-garden are endless, and need not be further dilated on.

Walks are necessities in the wild garden, but these should always be of an informal character. Paths should, as a rule, follow the easiest gradient, diverging from it only on account of natural obstructions, such as tree-trunks, rocks, or groups of shrubs. In the stream-garden, however, it is not always advisable to allow the path to run closely by the side of the water through its entire length. In many cases the formation of the ground will permit deviation from the course of the stream to appear natural, and the path may leave the waterside for a time to return to it again at a lower level. Often it will be found desirable to carry the path upward to some point of vantage from which a pretty view may be obtained of a lengthened stretch of water, fittingly bordered with attractive plants and trees or of a series of rapids or cascades. At such a place steps may be inevit-

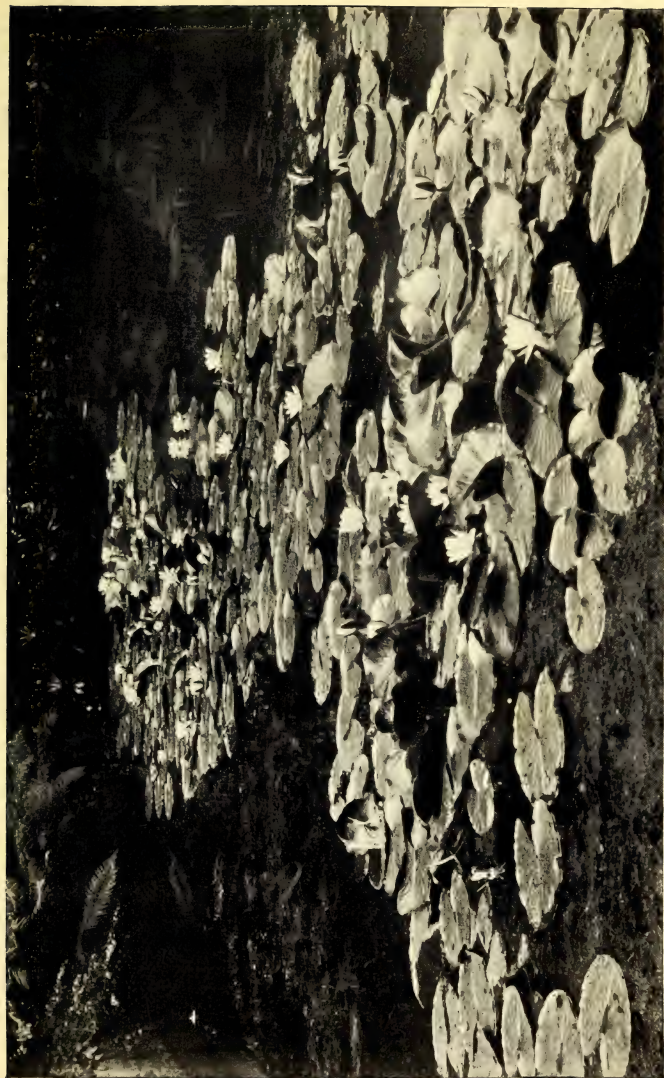
able, though they should be avoided as much as possible in the wild garden. Where the ground is so steep as to render walking difficult, and a deviation of the path to an easier gradient would carry it away from a spot from which some pleasing prospect is opened out, the least laborious means of ascent and descent must be provided, and steps become imperative. In a wood, where there is no rock in sight, stone steps appear incongruous, and here they should be fashioned out of rough branches fixed securely in the ground, each holding behind it a level platform of solid earth. On stony slopes, among rocks, or near cliffs, stone may rightly be used. Care should, however, be taken that the steps convey as little suggestion of formality as possible. No squaring should be done. Rough, flat-topped masses of undressed stone should be firmly imbedded in the sloping ground, but not in an exact line directly above one another. It is often possible, in an ascent not too steep, to arrange the steps in series, which greatly modifies their formality, thus two steps may be succeeded by a gentle slope, followed by three steps, and so on, but in very sudden rises this is impracticable, and the steps must be continuous. In a short space of time the steps themselves may be made beautiful with rock-plants tufting their edges and flowering at their sides. Saxifrages, *Linaria*, *Erinus*, and other dwarf-plants will soon become established in the sun, and in the shade the little *Arenaria balearica* will cover the angles with its creeping foliage and tiny white flowers, and small ferns flourish. The following list of water-plants includes the most attractive of those hardy in this country.

*Nymphaea*.—Water Lily. These, which give us flowers of the rarest beauty, should be grown in water, not overhung by trees, at a depth of from two feet to four feet according to the vigour of the species or variety. They are best planted in old baskets filled with rich



loam, and then lowered into the water when they will soon root into the mud. Swans, ducks and moorhens are destructive to Water Lilies, and water-rats often attack [them, biting off and carrying away the flower-buds. Caddis-worms also sometimes play havoc with them, eating the young leaves as they emerge from the mud, and thus killing weakly plants. *N. alba*, the common, native, white Water Lily is well known. *N. odorata*, a North American species, has also white flowers and is sweetly-scented. *N. tuberosa*, also from North America, bears white blossoms, and the little *N. pygmæa*, from China, has flowers of the same colour. All the foregoing species are beautiful, but more lovely are Marliac's Hybrid Water Lilies. The best of these are *N. Marliacea albida*, the finest white in existence, *N. Marliacea chromatella*, pale yellow, with deep maroon-red leaves—where there is only space for two distinct Water Lilies these should be selected—*N. M. gloriosa*, deep carmine-red, a grand flower and very large. *N. M. rosea*, deep pink, and *N. M. carnea*, pale flesh-pink. Hybrids of the *odorata* section include amongst the best, *N. odorata*, exquisite rose-pink, *N. o. suavissima*, rather darker in colour, and *N. o. sulphurea grandiflora*, a vigorous plant with pale yellow flowers and mottled foliage. The hybrids known as the Laydekeri race are smaller in size, but bright in colour, and are suitable for little ponds. They should be planted in shallow water. *N. Laydekeri fulgens* is glowing carmine in colour, and *N. L. rosea* is deep rose-pink. The ten already named are a good selection, but if more are required the following bear handsome flowers, namely, *lucida*, *Ellisiana*, *ignea*, *sanguinea*, *Robinsoni*, *Seignoureti*, *Andreana*, *odorata rosacea*, *o. Luciana*, *o. caroliniana*, *Laydekeri lilacina*, *L. rosea prolifera* and *L. purpurata*.

*Acorus calamus*.—Sweet Flag. A plant with straight, sword-shaped leaves three feet in length, growing in



WATER LILIES



shallow water or marshy spots. There is also a striped form.

*Aponogeton distachyon*.—Cape Pond-weed. A floating plant bearing spikes of white, hawthorn-scented flowers and having narrow lance-shaped leaves. It is perfectly hardy in the warmer parts of the country, and increases so rapidly that in small ponds it has to be partially cleared out every few years. Though blooming most profusely in the spring, there is scarcely a month when flowers may not be found in sheltered spots.

*Butomus umbellatus*.—Flowering Rush. A summer-blooming plant bearing rosy flower-heads, height four feet. It grows in shallow water.

*Calla æthiopica*.—Syn. *Richardia*. The Arum Lily. A grand plant for shallow water around the margins of lakes and ponds. In the south-west, early in June, thousands may be seen in full flower in an ornamental sheet of water. Even in Scotland it may be planted out permanently in shallow water.

*Calla palustris*.—A dwarf plant growing in shallow water or in boggy spots.

*Carex*.—Sedge. Several of these are British plants. Their long slender leaves being very graceful, as are their tall, plumed flower-stems. *C. baccans* produces coral-red berries. All grow in shallow water.

*Cladium Mariscus*.—A vigorous subject growing in shallow water, six feet in height, and bearing reddish-brown flower-panicles. *C. germanicum* is another striking species.

*Cyperus longus*.—A water-plant of handsome form growing to a height of three feet and bearing chestnut flower-spikes.

*Hottonia palustris*.—Water Violet. A dwarf plant growing in shallow water and marshy spots and bearing lilac, primrose-like flowers with a yellow eye.

*Menyanthes trifoliata*.—Buckbean. A dwarf plant



found in shallow water and boggy ground, and bearing pinkish-white flowers.

*Phragmites*.—Great Reed. A tall-growing plant suitable for the margins of pools. There is also a variegated form.

*Poa palustris*.—A tall and graceful water-grass growing five feet in height.

*Pontederia cordata*.—A water-plant growing two feet in height, bearing blue flower-spikes above its arrow-shaped leaves.

*Ranunculus aquatilis*.—Crowfoot. A British plant covering the surface of the water with floating white flowers. *R. floribundus* is a larger form.

*Ranunculus Lingua*.—Great Spearwort. A handsome plant growing well in a foot of water, and bearing large, bright-yellow flowers two inches in diameter.

*Rumex Hydrolapathum*.—Water Dock. A fine foliage plant growing in shallow water, with leaves two feet in length and flowers of a reddish-brown colour carried on stems six feet in height. In the autumn the leaves become deep red.

*Sagittaria*.—Arrow-head. A water-plant bearing tall spikes of white blossoms with strikingly-formed arrow-shaped leaves.

*Scirpus lacustris*.—Bullrush. A noble plant for groups in the water at the edge of a pond or lake.

*Sparganium*.—Bur Reed. *S. ramosum* is a plant of fine form with tall branching stems, growing under similar conditions to the Bullrush.

*Thalia dealbata*.—A stately plant for growing in shallow water, bearing panicles of purple flowers on tall, straight stems five feet or so in height. Its oval, glaucous foliage is also handsome. A native of South Carolina, and therefore not strictly hardy, but, like the Arum Lily, generally safe if planted in shallow water.

*Typha*.—Reed Mace. *T. latifolia*. A graceful plant

with long, narrow leaves bearing cylindrical, brown spikes on stems seven feet in height. This is generally erroneously styled Bullrush.

*Villarsia nymphaeoides*.—Syn. *Limnanthemum*. A pretty floating water-plant bearing a profusion of bright yellow flowers in the summer. A native of Britain.

## PLANTS FOR THE WATERSIDE

WITH the exception of the Water Lilies and the yellow-flowered Villarsia, none of the plants actually growing in the water afford showy colouring by their blossoms, but in the damp soil of the banks edging lakes, ponds and streams, many bright-flowered subjects may be established as well as plants of exceptionally noble foliage. Among the most striking of these are :—

*Epilobium*.—Willow Herb. *E. angustifolium* is a native of England, and grows to a height of six feet. It bears upright spikes of deep, rose-coloured flowers, and thrives in any damp spot. Large breadths in full bloom in the summer months have a handsome effect. There is a pretty white-flowered form of this species. *E. hirsutum* is another native species of stouter growth than *E. angustifolium* and bearing paler flowers.

*Equisetum*.—Horsetail. *E. maximum* is a vigorous plant attaining a height of six feet, flourishing in damp ground. Its whorls of slender branchlets rising one above the other give it an uncommon effect.

*Gunnera*.—The grandest of all waterside plants. *G. manicata* and *G. scabra* are both noble species, but the former produces the largest leaves. A great clump of this standing by the waterside is, in the summer, when the foliage is fully expanded, a notable sight. It grows most vigorously in deep, rich soil close to water, strong examples producing giant leaves over ten feet in diameter held on stems eight feet and more in height. The columnar spikes of minute greenish-red flowers are curious rather than beautiful. It has been recommended that

these should be cut off as soon as they appear, in order to increase the size of the leaves, but the latter will attain a spread of nine feet or more even if the flower-spikes are allowed to remain. Being natives of South America these plants cannot be considered absolutely hardy, though they have proved so in the south of England. In colder districts the great leaves, when they wither, should be cut off and spread over the crown mixed with sufficient leaf-mould to form a cone which may be removed in the spring.

*Iris*.—Some species of *Iris* are excellently adapted to waterside planting and create lovely pictures when flowering freely in the summer. The finest of these is *I. Kämpferi* or *lævigata* from Japan. Under favourable conditions this *Iris* will grow to a height of from four to five feet, and bears enormous flowers, varying in tint from pure white to deep purple, sometimes eight to ten inches in diameter. It likes a moist, rich and porous soil in the vicinity of water, indeed it will succeed if planted beneath the water-level. *I. sibirica* bears deep purple, white-veined blossoms on slender stems three feet in height. There is also a pretty white-flowered variety. The foliage is narrow and drooping. It thrives in damp spots close to the water. *I. ochroleuca*, *Syn. orientalis*, has been referred to before. It will grow in moist, rich earth. *I. pseudacorus*, the yellow Water Flag of our damp meadows, is a well-known plant. There is a variety with foliage half green and half yellowish-white in longitudinal stripes that is very handsome in the early summer. The leaves gradually lose their variegation after the flowering period, and in the autumn cannot be distinguished from those of the common type.

*Lobelia cardinalis*.—A native of the damp woods of North America. When grown in masses its brilliant vermilion flowers are a splendid sight in the late summer. It is well suited by a partially shaded position in damp



ground near the water. It has bright green leaves, and must not be confounded with the tenderer *L. fulgens* from Mexico, whose leaves are of a smoother texture and, in many of its varieties, purplish-brown in colour. This species is also a later flowerer than *L. cardinalis*.

*Lysimachia*.—Loosestrife. The taller-growing species, mostly yellow-flowered, flourish in the damp soil of the banks of ponds and streams.

*Lythrum*.—This plant goes by the popular name of Purple Loosestrife. *L. Salicaria* is the common English species bearing reddish-purple flower-spikes five feet in height. *L. superbum* is a finer form of the last named, with flowers of a far deeper and clearer colour, which should always be grown in preference to the type. It thrives in moist ground close to water.

*Mertensia*.—*M. virginica*, the Virginian Cowslip, is a beautiful plant bearing clusters of pale blue, drooping flowers on arching stems, and growing to a height of from eighteen inches to two feet. The foliage has a pretty glaucous tint. It flowers in the spring and does well in a moist, partially-shaded spot in porous soil. *M. sibirica* is a rather more vigorous species, and bears flowers of a deeper hue.

*Mimulus*.—Monkey Flower. The common *M. luteus* is a well-known waterside plant that, though a native of Chili, has, as a garden fugitive, become naturalised in many parts of England, Scotland and Ireland. *M. cardinalis* is a handsome flower, deep red in colour, but this species is rarely met with. There are, however, numerous attractive hybrids that will create a bright effect by the water's edge. They should be planted where they will not be overgrown by coarse herbage, and preferably where they may hang over the water from a spot a foot or so above its level.

*Petasites vulgaris*.—Butter Bur. A handsome British foliage plant, having finely-formed leaves sometimes

three feet in diameter. Will grow in sunshine or shade in any soil by the waterside.

*Polygonum*.—*P. cuspidatum* and *P. sachalinense*, mentioned among "large-growing plants" are well suited for positions in the vicinity of water.

*Primula japonica*.—A very handsome member of the Primrose family, growing, in a damp spot, to a height of three or four feet. The type bears flowers of a deep rose-crimson, and there are varieties with pink and rose-eyed, white flowers. A beautiful picture is obtained by planting the type by the hundred on the margin of a pond or lake almost level with the water, as when the plants are in full flower their rich colouring is reflected on the placid surface. *Primula japonica* will grow with the water level with its crown, and does well under deciduous trees such as Limes. *Primula rosea*, with deep rose-carmine flowers, only grows to a height of nine inches. It likes a moist situation, but should occupy an open space where it will not be overcrowded by stronger-growing subjects.

*Rodgersia podophylla*.—A very handsome-leaved plant producing in the summer a tall branching flower-spike of ivory-white blossoms. Its foliage is, however, its greatest attraction, this being over a foot in diameter, and divided into five deeply-cut lobes. The leaves are bronze in colour, and therefore very effective. It does well in a porous soil of leaf-mould or peat at the water's margin.

*Saxifraga peltata*.—A robust plant growing well in porous soil by the waterside. In the spring it throws up from its leafless crown tall flower-spikes sometimes three feet in height, bearing loose clusters of pale pink flowers six inches in diameter, the individual blossoms of which are half an inch across. Later on the large, handsome leaves are produced, a foot in diameter, borne on stalks eighteen inches in length.

*Spiræa*.—This race of plants delights in moist soil and the proximity of water. Herbaceous and shrubby species have both been treated of in earlier chapters.

*Thalictrum*.—In addition to *T. aquilegifolium*, previously mentioned, the British Fern Rue, *T. flavum*, may be encouraged in the neighbourhood of water.

*Trollius*.—Globe Flower. The pale yellow *T. europæus* is a native of our islands. Other attractive species are the pale orange *T. altaicus*, the orange *T. asiaticus* and the yellow *T. cancasicus*. A very handsome, lately-introduced variety, and the best of the Globe Flowers is *Orange Globe*, bearing very large blossoms of a deep orange tint. They grow to a height of from eighteen inches to two feet, flower in the summer, and thrive by the waterside.

*Willow*.—This tree can scarcely be omitted in writing of the beautifying of water-margins. Some are attractive on account of their catkins, borne in the early spring, some by reason of the bright colouring of their stems, so striking in the winter sun when their branches are bare of leaves, and others from their graceful habit. Of the latter the Weeping Willow, *Salix babylonica*, is a good example, *S. elegantissima* being another handsome tree with pendulous branches. The Cardinal Willow and Golden Willow are unsurpassed in the glowing red and yellow of their twigs, and *S. caprea* is valuable for its downy plush-like catkins.

## PLANTS FOR MOIST AND BOGGY GROUND

IN the immediate vicinity of a sheet of water, by the side of a stream where the ground at a little distance falls rather below the water's ordinary level, in deep and sudden depressions such as are sometimes met with in woods and in spots where a wood abruptly terminates at a high, almost perpendicular bank skirted by low ground into which the drainage from the wood slowly oozes, are to be found sites particularly adapted to the needs of many beautiful plants that refuse to thrive where the summer sun can parch the soil about their roots, and are only happy when provided with a moist resting-place. Some of these plants succeed perfectly in the full sunshine, others delight in the shade of deciduous trees. In the following list some of the most attractive of these are named.

*Caltha palustris*.—Marsh Marigold. A plant that adds much to the beauty of the landscape in late spring, its bright yellow gleaming from boggy places, from river banks and from the margins of still pools. It succeeds anywhere if the soil be damp, both in sunshine and shade. The double variety is less beautiful than the type.

*Cardamine*.—*C. palustris*, Cuckoo Flower. This grows well in damp meadows and in marshy spots. There is a double form also found wild which is pretty.

*Cypripedium*.—Lady's Slipper. *C. spectabile*, the Mocassin Flower, is the largest and most charming



of these. A native of North America, where it inhabits damp woods, it thrives in deep peaty soil in partial shade. The individual flowers, which are white with a soft pink, inflated lip, are over two inches across. Large well-established clumps, two feet or more in height and three feet across, bear several dozen blossoms. Other ornamental species are *C. acaule*, growing one foot in height and bearing large rosy-purple flowers, *C. Calceolus*, a native of Britain, eighteen inches in height, bearing flowers with dark brown petals and yellow lip, *C. macranthum*, rose-purple with very large lip, *C. parviflorum*, eighteen inches in height, with brown-petalled and yellow-lipped blossoms and *C. pubescens*, two feet in height, bearing large yellow flowers spotted with brown.

*Epipactis*.—Terrestrial Orchids like the last-named, succeeding in boggy soil. *E. latifolia* bears drooping spikes of greenish-purple flowers eighteen inches in height, and *E. palustris*, white flowers tinged with crimson. Height one foot.

*Eriophorum*.—Cotton Grass. Very pretty when in full flower, and growing in quantity in marshy spots, the downy white heads fluttering in the wind. Easily established in boggy ground. A native of Britain.

*Galax aphylla*.—An elegant little plant bearing delicate white flower-spikes six inches in height, and having evergreen, round, prettily-tinted leaves. It thrives in porous, boggy soil, such as leaf-mould or peat, but should be planted where it will not be overgrown by other things.

*Linnea borealis*.—Twin Flower. A charming creeping plant bearing drooping, white, pink-tinted flowers which are fragrant. It does best in moist, peaty soil in woods.

*Myosotis palustris*.—Water Forget-me-not. One of our most beautiful native plants, its clear china-blue being almost unique among flowers. It delights in

damp, boggy ground, and in shaded spots will continue to flower for a couple of months after the border Forget-me-nots have ceased to bloom.

*Nierembergia rivularis*.—A dwarf plant of trailing habit, bearing cream-white flowers two inches across. It is best suited by a somewhat shaded position and moist soil.

*Parnassia palustris*.—Grass of Parnassus. An attractive native plant, bearing in the summer white, green-veined flowers on upright stems six inches in height. America supplies us with three others that may be associated with our native species, namely *P. asarifolia* with larger leaves and flowers, and *P. caroliniana* and *P. fimbriata* whose white blossoms have fringed petals.

*Pinguicula grandiflora*.—This dwarf plant, which is the most handsome of its race, is found wild in certain districts in Ireland. It bears violet-blue flowers about an inch in length. It requires a soil very porous in nature and constantly moist, and thrives best in a shady spot. *P. lusitanica*, also found in Ireland, bears yellow flowers and *P. vallisneriaefolia*, from the mountains of Spain, has blossoms of a soft lilac-purple. The same treatment suits all.

*Pyrola rotundifolia*.—A plant about nine inches in height occasionally found wild in this country, and bearing racemes of pure white, fragrant flowers on erect stems. Each flower is half an inch across, and twenty blooms are often borne on a stem. It will succeed in moist soil in a shady spot. The variety *P. r. arenaria* grows on sandy sea-shores, and should have a more open position in the garden than the last-named.

*Ranunculus amplexicaulis*.—A pretty white-flowered plant growing to a height of a foot, which thrives in moderately moist, porous soil such as that to be found in the dryer portions of the bog garden.

*Shortia galacifolia*.—A very beautiful little spring

flowering plant, bearing white flowers faintly tinted with rose, on upright stems about eight inches in height. The spreading edges of the slightly-drooping blossoms are prettily frilled, and the stems and bracts are red. The leathery, rounded leaves assume a decorative autumnal colouring, becoming a deep crimson-maroon. Moist peaty soil and a partially shaded position is best suited to its wants.

*Soldanella alpina*.—Charming little plants, bearing four or five small, pale violet, drooping flowers on a stem six inches or less in height. The petals of the blossoms are divided into narrow strips. A continually moist and very porous soil is requisite, and an open position is preferable. Other interesting species are *S. Clusii*, *S. minima* and *S. montana*.

*Trillium*.—Wood Lily. Natives of North America. All the species should be grown in shade, doing well under deciduous trees, and in a moist, porous soil of peat or leaf-mould. *T. grandiflorum* is a very handsome plant, growing to a height of nearly two feet and bearing large, pure white three-petalled flowers often three inches across. *T. sessile californicum* is a still more vigorous grower with spotted leaves, the petals of its white flowers are, however, very narrow, so that the blossoms compare unfavourably with those of the last-named. Other species are *T. cernuum* with white flowers, *T. erectum* with purple, *T. erythrocarpum*, white and purple, *T. obovatum*, pink, and *T. stylosum*, rose-colour, none are however equal in merit to *T. grandiflorum*.

*Trollius acaulis*.—A dwarf Globe Flower six inches in height, bearing bright yellow flowers suffused with purple. Its requirements are best suited by a moist peaty soil and an open position.

## WALL PLANTS

IT may be objected that, as in the wild garden the handiwork of man should be conspicuous by its absence, the consideration of plants useful for the embellishment of walls is needless. Walls may, however, occur in the approaches to the wild garden, and, where this is the case, every endeavour should be made to modify their original unattractiveness by clothing them with plant life. Walls may be rendered objects of beauty instead of eyesores. Nature gives us proof of this again and again. Here she faces a wall with countless upright, yellow-white spikes of navelwort rising from flat rosettes of rounded leaves, here she drapes the surface with the lilac flower-trails of mother-of-thousands, here crimson-leaved herb-Robert and fumitory paint the wall with red and yellow. Nature works wonders with her self-sown seedlings, perfecting her plants in the most unexpected and often apparently impossible spots. From the dry wall her Chimney Campanulas rise robustly with crowded stems five feet or more in height; from the narrow chink between the country station wall and the paved platform, down which one can hardly pass a knife-blade, rise strong plants of Valerian a yard in height; and from mortar not five years old seedlings of shrubby Veronicas push a few inches of growth. Man may often be discouraged in comparing his ill-fortune with Nature's apparently never-failing success. He has sown in carefully-prepared soil a packet of seed, out of which, perhaps, scarcely one has germinated. Nature's seed thrown on a rock or into the midst of weeds flourishes



amazingly. But one only sees Nature's successes and knows nothing of her failures. Indeed of these latter she is heedless, "so careful of the type she seems, so careless of the single life," and man may well take heart of grace if his expectations be but half fulfilled.

Old walls in which the mortar has perished may be prepared for the reception of plants by the removal of some of the mortar and replacing it with a gritty compost in which seedlings may be planted or seed sown. Where walls are being built these should be constructed of large, flat stones, each layer being surfaced with a thin coating of compost which should also be worked well down between the stones and planting should be done as the work proceeds. A retaining wall, that is to say a wall built against a higher level of earth, such as occurs in terraces, offers the best conditions for the satisfactory growth of the plants, as they are able, after penetrating the compost between the stones with their roots, to push these deeply into the soil lying at the back of the wall. Where a wall is to be built on level ground it should be formed of two separate walls with a space of from eighteen inches to two feet between them, which must be filled with soil, tightly rammed down, as the courses are laid. In building a dry wall, the upright surface should slope slightly backward from base to top, and the stones should not be laid quite level but should be a trifle higher in front than at the back. When constructed in this manner rain, instead of running down the face of the wall into the earth at the base, finds its way into the horizontal interstices between the stones, and, running backward down the slight slope, moistens the roots of the plants.

Many subjects suitable for walls have been referred to in dealing with "Dwarf-growing Plants," and these will consequently only be mentioned by name in the following list.



CAMPANULA PYRAMIDALIS FROM SELF-SOWN SEED IN DRY WALL



*Acena microphylla*, *Achillea umbellata*, *A. tomentosa*, *Alyssum*, *Androsace*, *Antirrhinum*. Besides the common Snapdragon, *A. majus*, two trailing species with white flowers and greyish foliage, *A. Asarina* and *A. glutinosa* are excellent wall plants. *Aquilegia*. Seed of the better species of Columbine often germinates well and produces good plants. *Arabis*, *Armeria*, *Arnebia echioides*. This last, known as the Prophet Flower, will succeed in a wall. It has yellow flowers whose petals on opening are marked with a deep maroon spot which fades later. *Artemisia*, *Aster alpinus*, *Aubrietia*, *Campanula pyramidalis*, and the other dwarf species already alluded to, *Cardamine trifolia*, *Centranthus ruber*, *Cerastium*, *Convolvulus mauritanicus*, a beautiful summer-flowering trailer with lilac-blue blossoms, *Corydalis*, *Dianthus*, species and hybrids, *Dryas*, *Echeveria*, *Erigeron mucronatus* *Erinus*. Geraniums of the dwarfer species such as *G. argenteum*, *G. cinereum*, *G. Endressi*, and *G. ibericum*, *Gypsophila repens*, *Haberlea rhodopensis*, a pretty little plant bearing lilac-blue flowers which should be grown on the north side of a wall, *Helianthemum*, *Hutchinsia*, *Hypericum calycinum*, *H. coris* and *H. repens*, *Iberis*, *Ionopsidium acaule*, a charming little annual bearing pale violet flowers and growing about two inches in height, *Linaria*, *Lithospermum purpureo-ceruleum*, *L. prostratum* and *L. graminifolium*, *Lysimachia nummularifolia*, *Meconopsis cambrica*, the yellow Welsh Poppy, *Mesembryanthemums* in warm localities near the sea-shore, *Morisia hypogaea*, *Onosma tauricum*, a plant bearing long bell-shaped flowers of a bright yellow colour, very ornamental, *Pentstemon Scouleri*, a very attractive spring flowerer, also doing well on banks and in rocky ground, which bears large purple-blue flowers, dwarf Phlox, *Ramondia pyrenaica*, a plant producing blossoms, an inch and a half in diameter, of a mauve-blue tint with orange centres, best suited like the *Haberlea* by a shady position,



*Saponaria*, *Saxifrage*, *Sedum*, *Sempervivum*, *Silene*, *Stellaria*, *Verbascums* in variety, *Veronica*, *Vinca*, *Viola*, *Waldsteinia*, *Wahlenbergia graminifolia* and *serpyllifolia*, two dwarf plants bearing handsome, purple, campanula-like flowers. *Zauschneria californica*, Californian Fuchsia, a plant that generally succeeds better in a wall than grown in a bed, bearing brilliant, scarlet flowers two inches in length. There are early and late flowering forms of this subject, the former of which should always be procured. Besides the foregoing, Wall-flowers, both of the common and Alpine sections, will succeed admirably, and on the shady portions Ferns will find a congenial resting-place.

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